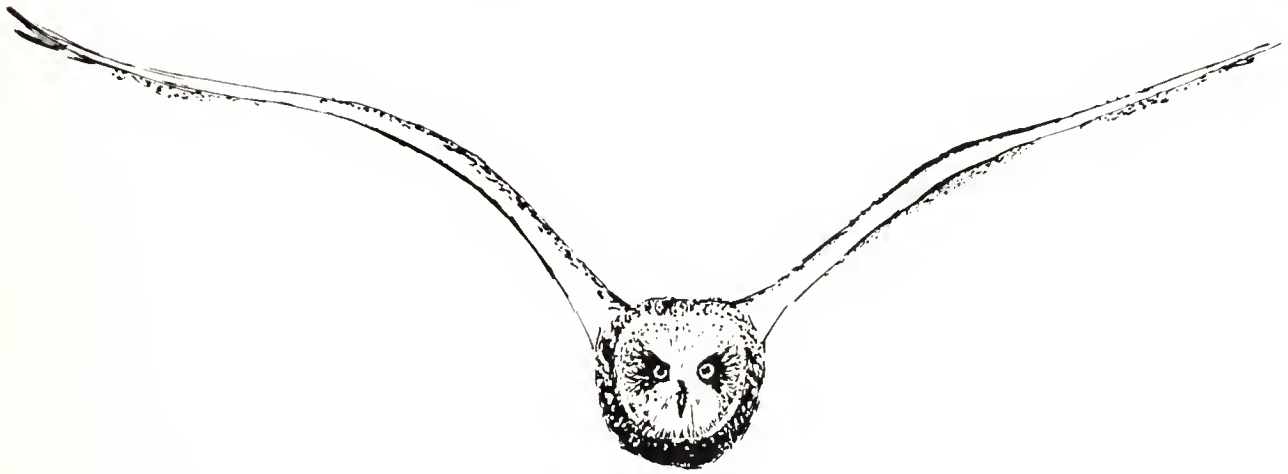
QL684.I3
M4
v. 4
no. 3
1995

Meadowlark

A JOURNAL OF ILLINOIS BIRDS

Volume 4, Number 3 *1995*



D. Athans

Illinois Ornithological Society

Publisher
Illinois Ornithological Society
Eric Walters, President
Sheryl De Vore, Chief Editor

Board of Directors
Cindy Alberico (Field Trip Chair), Richard Blewett, Robert T. Chapel, Judy K. De Neal (Vice-President), Michael Hogg (Treasurer), David B. Johnson, Jean Lesniak, Eric Walters, David Willard, Ph.D.

Recording Secretary
Philip Haebler

Associate Editors
Judy K. De Neal, David B. Johnson, William Moskoff, Christine Williamson

Art Editor
Denis Kania

Staff Photographers
Joe B. Milosevich, Dennis Oehmke

Staff Illustrators
David Athans, Karen Becker, Brian K. Willis

Pre-Press Production
Kathy Ade, 708.492.1487

Printing, Reprox
4667 McRee
St. Louis, Missouri 63110

Membership Secretary
Barbara Walters

Editorial Advisory Board
Laurence C. Binford, Ph.D., Dale Birkenholz, H. David Bohlen, Kenneth J. Brock, Victoria J. Byrc, Robert T. Chapel, Todd Fink, Ronald E. Goetz, Scott Hickman, Ph.D., L. Barrie Hunt, Vernon M. Kleen, Scott K. Robinson, Ph.D., W. Douglas Robinson, Todd Fink, Robert Szafoni, David Willard, Ph.D.

Letter from the editor

There's still much we don't know about bird behavior

Several years ago on May 1, Renee Baade and I were driving home from a week-long trip birding Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Baade directed my attention to two immature Bald Eagles. We guessed they were third-year birds. But what most astonished us was that they seemed to be exhibiting adult courtship behavior. We thought the two eagles had actually locked talons, but neither of us knew that much about the behavior of immature Bald Eagles so we just enjoyed the show until they flew away.

Then six months ago Richard Bjorklund submitted an article for *Meadowlark* detailing his fascinating observations of subadult courtship in Bald Eagles, which you can read in this issue's Seasonal Highlights. While it was exciting to read an account that seemed to support what Baade and I had seen, it also made me realize how very little humans actually know about bird behavior. I also wonder how much bird behavior must occur right before our eyes, yet go unnoticed.

For instance, H. David Bohlen, one of the state's most respected birders, observed an interesting phenomenon regarding American Coot migration for the first time last winter. Bohlen watched these nocturnal migrants take flight at dusk one by one. His fascinating report is also in Seasonal Highlights.

Most recently, Donald Dann, an IOS member, sent me a note describing Herring and Ring-billed Gulls "hovering and picking caterpillars and other large insects off the tops of trees" on his Lake Michigan shoreline property. Dann asked, "Is this as uncommon as I think?" Tom Schulenberg at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago said the behavior is not only uncommon, but he also had never heard of it before. While gulls do indeed eat insects - California Gulls for instance eat crickets - the idea of a gull acting in fly-catcher-like fashion was news to Schulenberg who remarked it was too bad Dann didn't have a video recording of the observation.

So it seems there are not just rare finds and first state records to document in Illinois, but unusual bird behavior as well. This winter while you're missing the 100 species you saw in one day during migration, why not record bird behavior? You might learn something new about a common species and perhaps even contribute to science in the process.

Sheryl DeVore

MEADOWLARK

A Journal of Illinois Birds

Volume 4, Number 3 - 1995

ISSN 1065-2043

President's Message

A quick perusal of our journal highlights the talents of our visual artists and writers. Issue after issue contains stunning drawings and photos plus well-researched articles. We are grateful for the hard work and volunteer spirit of our illustrators, photographers, writers, and editors. But we can not rely on them alone to continue providing us with quality work. Many of them have been working for the journal since it was first published four years ago.

Meadowlark is your journal, and as such, we invite you to get involved with helping produce it. Perhaps some of you are not confident about your abilities. Don't worry. Although we have set high standards for the journal, that doesn't mean we aren't interested in working with you. Perhaps we could have a photography field trip or a writing seminar at an annual meeting.

The first step, however, is to contact the art editor or the chief editor to learn how you can contribute to *Meadowlark*. You'll find their addresses on the inside back cover of the journal.

Eric Walters

About our cover:
David Athans drew our cover illustration of a Short-eared Owl.
Athans, a member of the Chicago Ornithological Society, has exhibited his drawings at the Midwest Birding Symposium and also sells his works through Wild Birds Unlimited.
He can be reached at 708.388.1285.

Articles

An Illinois Christmas Bird Count Odyssey - Top to Bottom and Back 82
- David B. Johnson

The Illinois 1994 Christmas Bird Count 87
- David B. Johnson and Alan F. Stokie

Departments

Bird Finding Guide 101
Shorebirds at O'Hare Post Office Ponds
- Richard Biss

Feeder Station 105
Ovenbird chooses indoor atrium for winter feeding station
- Christine Williamson

Seasonal Highlights 106
Winter Season 1994/1995
Barrow's Goldeneye, Migrating American Coots, Gyrfalcon, Subadult Courting Bald Eagles, Snowy Owl

Field Notes 110
Winter Season 1994/95
- Robert Danley

Copyright © by the Illinois Ornithological Society. No part of this journal may be reproduced without the written permission of IOS and the chief editor, except brief passages of a paragraph or less in which attribution is made to the journal and author.

An Illinois Christmas Bird Count Odyssey

Top to Bottom and Back

by David B. Johnson

David B. Johnson traveled the length and width of Illinois to participate in nine Christmas Bird Counts the winter of 1994/95. Here he is shown birding Union County in southern Illinois. Photo by Robert Chapel.

The following narrative is dedicated to Penny Pucelik who died 30 August 1994. My odyssey might never have happened had she not ignited the spirit of birding in me two decades ago. On 12 November 1972 I went on my first bird walk as a senior at Bradley University in Peoria. Pucelik, my French instructor, took me on a weekend getaway bird walk with her husband Tom at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge in Illinois. It was a delightful, crisp, fall day, resplendent with feathered wonders. We saw a Northern Shoveler and Snow Geese that appeared as if they had "mud slapped against the sides," as Pucelik put it. An American Kestrel perched on a wire and my first woodpecker, a downy, called as we walked the trails. I took almost the same walk on 23 December 1994, at the Chautauqua Christmas Bird Count, 23 years later. This was a special count for me, not only because of the Bald Eagles and thousands of waterfowl that clouded the skies, but also because it included many of the same birds I had seen with the Puceliks earlier. I was then reminded of the gift Penny Pucelik had given me so long ago.

As a northerner, I dreamed for years of partieipating in the southern Illinois Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) where the possibility existed of recording 100 speeies or more in one count cirele and where many more individuals as well as speeies are seen than where I usually eount in Lake County. Vernon Kleen of the Illinois Department of Natural Resourees had been bugging me for years to join in one of the southern eounts. I decided 1994 was going to be the year to do it. I was going to help with the Horseshoe Lake, the state's southernmost count, Cypress Creek, and then Union County CBCs in extreme southern Illinois.

With new binoculars and a desire to partieipate in as many Illinois CBCs as I eould, I planned an itinerary that would take me from the Chieago area through central Illinois and baek to northern Illinois during the two week Christmas count period (17 Dec 1994 - 2 Jan 1995). I arranged to join in Denis Kania's Fermilab-Batavia eount in DuPage County; Myrna Deaton's eount at Clinton Lake in DeWitt County; the BIG THREE, Horseshoe, Cypress Creek, and Union County in southern Illinois; the Evanston eount; Joel Greenberg's Chieago lakefront and Waukegan counts; and, finally, I had learned that there was a Chautauqua NWR count in eentral Illinois that I eould join on my way baek from southern Illinois if Sig Bjorklund and Dave Bohlen agreed, whieh they did. I was excited about partieipating in this great birding year-end tradition - a social and scientific event. I was going to have fun top-to-bottom birding in Illinois and hopefully set a new reeord of nine CBCs in one year. What follows is a personal aecount of my 1994 CBC odyssey.

Fermilab-Batavia.

17 December. 9 a.m. I met my long time birding friend Joe Sucheeki of Naperville at Pratt-Wayne Woods and Prairie Preserve. My first CBC bird was a Red-tailed Hawk, a lone sentinel on a snow-covered field. As I pulled up to met Sucheeki, he exelaimed he had already seen an exeiting bird, a Lineoln's Sparrow along an open ereek. This great find required a metieulously detailed deseription. We walked several open fields with diminishing snow eover finding several Eastern Meadowlarks and Swamp Sparrows as well as a Ring-neeked Pheasant and watehing Horned Larks flying overhead. At noon we heard a Snow Bunting. We also saw a single Yellow-rumped Warbler feeding on poisòn ivy berries before leaving to fly south.

The afternoon was spent drivebirding around the Du Page County Airport. This was pretty good "turf"; we diseovered a Brown Thrasher

along a shrubby creek and more Horned Larks on the airport grounds. Perhaps the best area was a wet weedy patch at the airport's southwest end where Joe Suchecki had seen a Short-eared Owl the week before. I pished an immature White-crowned Sparrow and a Savannah Sparrow, which represented the second time that species had been recorded for this count.

Just as the winter light began to fade I thought I had spotted a bald-faced hornet nest. But wait! It was an owl, a Barred Owl which had just come out of a spruce in a small corner woodlot at the prairie's edge. Quite a few Du Page birders I met at Jim and Kate Frazier's countdown party thought this was a great find. I thought Kate's chili recipe was a great find, too! As always at these countdown parties, the best birds and high counts were announced, then immediately put on the Du Page County bird alert. I wondered how many people would go after the Savannah Sparrow versus the owl.

Clinton Lake.

18 December. 5:45 a.m. I had to make a choice. Drive straight down to Clinton Lake, about 180 miles away, or get a few hours sleep at home after the Fermilab countdown party. I chose four hours of sleep and woke at 2 a.m. to head to the Clinton Nuclear Plant Energy and Environmental Center east of Birbeck in DeWitt County. I arrived at 5:45a.m., promptly went back to sleep, and awoke when the 6:30 a.m. arrivals drove into the parking lot. Myrna Deaton, the compiler for the Clinton Lake count, quickly gave out assignments and maps. Mike Donahue of Danville and I were to cover the north valley and branch of Clinton Lake. Since I liked to drive fields in search of longspurs and Horned Larks, we also got plenty of open fields, a habitat disappearing on the Chicago area counts.

Where we could, we transected the woodlands and valleys south of Solomon. Each time we performed hunt-and-peck birding, getting out and sampling different habitats, often not walking more than 100 yards in each area, reconnoitering, and then driving on to the next spot. The chatter of the Carolina Wrens was a welcome addition to a northerner's CBC list of species. So was the Tufted Titmouse. The woodlands had flickers, Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, and an occasional Red-headed Woodpecker. American Tree Sparrows were the most common field and roadside sparrow. We looked for more unusual sparrows but could only come up with seven Song Sparrows and later in the afternoon, Swamp Sparrows.

Donahue seemed apprehensive about driving so many open stark brown and black fields in search of longspurs. Our efforts soon paid off, however, when we spotted a flock of mixed blackbirds and starlings. After the flock arose and reeled to a field close by, two all-black birds with white eyes remained in a tree by the road's side. I noted the purplish hoods on each bird and exclaimed,

White-crowned Sparrows on a fence row were seen in mid-state during one of the nine Christmas Bird Count treks taken by David Johnson during the 1994/95 season. Drawing by Karen Becker.

"Those are male Brewer's Blackbirds in breeding plumage!" We studied these birds while they remained in a farmer's cow lot yard for at least 45 minutes. We recorded the greenish sheen to the black plumage, razor-straight culmen on the bill, and rather short, squared tail.

Just north of this farmer's woodlot, wisps of snow began swirling over the dark and stubble cornfields as many Horned Larks and several Lapland Longspurs called overhead. We had to wait at one point for a large group of cattle to cross the road. At noon we reconnoitered at the Visitor's Center where we learned of some rather good bird sightings by other parties including another male Brewer's Blackbird seen by Myrna Deaton, a Northern Saw-whet Owl recorded by Steve Bailey and company, Northern and Loggerhead Shrike, plus many water birds.

Since no Brown Creepers had yet been recorded, finding one became our afternoon mission. Off we went to the north valley where we found two creepers as well as a Sharp-shinned Hawk darting through a small river's edge, scattering all the birds. At the prairie point we pished five Swamp Sparrows along the lake's grassy wet eastern edge. Across the lake we spotted Green-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, and Mallards. But the real thrill was hearing a Wild Turkey gobbling across the valley. At the evening's tally, each team had their own feathered trophies to contribute to the pot of 88 species. Counters also mused about whether hiking a few more miles would have produced the elusive Red-shouldered Hawk or the winter finches that were missing from the count.

Horseshoe Lake.

20 December. I picked up Myrna Deaton around noon 19 December to make a leisurely journey to Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area in Alexander County, seven miles north of Cairo. You know you're headed south when Turkey Vultures and an occasional Black Vulture are soaring overhead and as Loggerhead Shrikes dot the telephone wires and barbed-wire fences along the way. Horseshoe Lake is the state's southernmost count and observers have almost always recorded 90 species or more, though falling short of the magic 100 mark. As Mike Donahue said, "It's one of those 98s," meaning this count had the dubious distinction of being one of the "BIG THREE" which have recorded 98 species but no more.

The 2,400-acre shallow lake provides a wintering ground for not only thousands of Canada Geese but also many other wintering birds. As we entered the refuge at sunset Monday, a gorgeous Bald Eagle, whistling Wood Ducks, and a cacophony of geese greeted us along the oxbow lake with a bayouesque backdrop of bald cypress, swamp cottonwood, and tupelo gum. The Miller City Blacktop soon brought us to the turnoff to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Wicker Club lodge. Now I was about 340 miles south from home and my count circle in northeastern Illinois. Mike Donahue rates the Wicker Club a "modest and rustic A" for its comfortable lodging and rather modern kitchen and bath facilities. I couldn't argue with his assessment.

The next day, Deaton and I set off on our assigned area, the refuge nature preserve loop around the lodge's campground and some driving routes south of the refuge along the Mississippi River. The morning brought "tea-kettle, tea-kettles" of Carolina Wrens and the "old Sam Peabody" songs of White-throated Sparrows, plus Eastern Bluebirds and Fox Sparrows. In the wood and field edges south of the Wicker Club were scores of Song and Swamp Sparrows, lesser numbers of Field and Savannah Sparrows, and a solitary Lincoln's Sparrow spotted by Deaton. Rufous-sided Towhees, Brown Thrashers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and one House Wren darted about in the hedges. In the wetter, flat fields, we saw Killdeer almost everywhere as well as an occasional Common Snipe. Lapland Longspurs and Horned Larks often called above. The air was balmy and crisp and while the deciduous trees were bare, we felt as if it were the Spring Bird Count, not the CBC.

In the afternoon we spotted 11 species of ducks, including Canvasback and Northern Pintail in the Grand Lake area, and in the evening we observed several cormorants and Ring-billed Gulls at a new levee retention area near Willard. The Wicker Club countdown party brought the usual "oohs and ahs" as Vernon Kleen and H. David Bohlen recorded the first Ross' Goose, two immature female Indigo Buntings out on Horseshoe Lake Island in some fallow milo fields, and two Common Yellowthroats.

Cypress Creek.

21 December. During the evening a spring-like thunderstorm dropped in and when we awoke at 4:30 a.m. to drive to the Cypress Creek NWR center at Shawnee Community College, we wondered if the rain would quit. It did. Myrna Deaton and I got our assignments from Todd Fink and Judy DeNeal and headed out the Belknap Blacktop to check on a Black Vulture roost. There were no Black Vultures on the high power lines but a Rough-legged Hawk sailed over the Indian Point Bluff in Johnson County. (I felt at home in Johnson County.) We enjoyed a soaring Turkey Vulture and Northern Harrier. After recording several Yellow-rumped Warblers eating poison ivy berries near Karnak we explored some southern fields which brought a pocket of 15 Savannah Sparrows, easily 15 times as many as I've ever seen on a northern Illinois count, and a group of about 10 singing White-crowned Sparrows on a brushy fence row. We recorded 106 of this species that day. Most were singing. Late evening brought us into Karnak where we observed the count's only Hooded Mergansers in a pond adjacent to a dike levee.

This count's countdown party was held at Shawnee Community College. Scott Robinson and his field

crew recorded a high number of Red-headed Woodpeckers along the Cache River bottoms, which contributed to a state record of 738 Red-headed Woodpeckers on a CBC. Other woodpeckers such as the Hairy Woodpecker and Northern Flicker were recorded in record numbers, 109 and 291, respectively. Todd Fink turned up an Orange-crowned Warbler at Wildcat Cemetery in a pine grove. He also produced out of his pocket a plastic bag with a fresh specimen of a Northern Parula (Illinois State Museum specimen 660401), a neotropical migrant that should have long been gone, but instead failed to migrate and died.

Steve Olsen recorded good numbers of Le Conte's Sparrows (23). A state record number of Northern Harriers and Short-eared Owls were seen, 73 and 19, respectively. Cypress Creek recorded 98 species and nine new all-time state high counts. A PBS news crew even visited and videotaped the party. This was the second official year of this count and it's already a member of the 98 club. It's one to watch in the future.

Union County.

22 December. My assignment was a 7-mile walk with Robert Chapel from the top of Hamburg Hill in Shawnee National Forest down to Lyerle Lake. At twilight after the drive up from the Wicker Club lodge, Chapel and I heard a Barred Owl call from the distant hills. We left my car at Lyerle Lake and proceeded to the top of Hamburg Hill near the summer camp where Scott Robinson does his neotropical migrant research. By the time we reached the top of the hill there was plenty of sunlight to begin our descent and count. The quiet stillness of the winter woods was punctuated by a Pileated Woodpecker and a pair of nuthatches. Many of the beech trees retained their light brownish leaves and as we began our walk down Hamburg Hill, a trickle of water drew in our first kinglets, Carolina Chickadees, and Winter and Carolina Wrens. One Purple Finch stopped briefly on a sycamore and by the time we reached the bottoms below, birds were popping up all over. Numerous Hairy, Downy, Red-bellied, and Pileated Woodpeckers called at every listening stop we made. Tufted Titmice, Brown Creepers, and kinglets were bountiful. As we walked along the water's edge at the foothills junction with the swamp we found Wood Duck and many Gadwall. Cries of Red-shouldered Hawks also pierced the swampland. Occasionally I found a cane break and said to Chapel, "Maybe this could hold Swainson's Warbler in the summer."

We left the swamp at about 11 a.m. in time for the annual "pit bull walk by", so named because to get to the next spot we had to walk by 15 chained and growling pit bulls. We quickly left those howling confines to the sounds of more Carolina Wrens, White-throated Sparrows, and cardinals. A mockingbird flew up along a fence row and by the time we reached Lyerle Lake many House Finches were tallied.

At the top of the dike, Bohlen spotted an immature male Surf Scoter, a first for the Union County count. Most all the count participants saw this rarity. The afternoon was spent out on the levee roads which offered commanding views of the Mississippi River valley and its birds. We counted abundant sparrows in the fallow bottomlands adjacent to the river. Longspurs and Horned Larks were often out in the stark bottomlands. As evening approached we tallied a Loggerhead Shrike on a weed stalk and several Eastern Bluebirds flying up to a forest edge. Soon we were at Trail of Tears refuge headquarters where hot chicken soup was waiting and once again the countdown festivities began.

That evening's best bird had to be Bohlen's sighting of an immature Chipping Sparrow. Bohlen also recorded an immature Golden Eagle earlier in the day flying over the refuge, a bird I'd hoped to see in southern Illinois while on the counts but missed. The Mississippi River fallow bottomlands fields (left over from the great flood of 1993) hosted new state record high counts of Song and Swamp Sparrows, 894 and 654, respectively. Union County also recorded a new state high for Eastern Bluebirds, 199 individuals.

The drive back to Decatur was tough after three straight days of bird counting. Myrna Deaton drove back to her home in Decatur and I made it back to Clinton and crashed only to be awakened at midnight since I had a piece of Deaton's luggage in my trunk. I also recovered my boom box which I had left at the motel on the 17th.

The next day was the Chautauqua Count. I told Bohlen I would try to meet him at the refuge headquarters at 6 a.m., if I could get up!

Chautauqua NWR.

23 December 1994. At 5 a.m. I managed to drive to the east side of Lake Chautauqua, just south of Goofey Ridge where I met Sig Bjorklund, Dennis Oehmke, and Bohlen at a turn-a-round north of the refuge headquarters.

This was some count! As soon as daylight began, clouds of Mallards (200,000) blackened the sky at the south end of the refuge. Many pintail and Gadwall were about, as well as an occasional Green-winged Teal. Bald Eagles coursed the shoreline and an occasional Northern Harrier flew by. A rather large group of swans was seen along the southern shore but the birds were too far away for positive identification.

At the southern end of the refuge, we saw many Common Mergansers as well as a dozen or more Bald Eagles. The swans had moved back north and were again too distant for identification. We then did some car birding through Havana getting some rather close views of Eurasian Tree Sparrows in shrubby backyards along with the regular House Sparrows. I enjoyed looking at these "ETS's" (as Bjorklund and Bohlen called them) at the northern limit of their range.

Around noon we decided to split up and drive to some open field country along the Mason Tazewell

ditch near Topeka. Bjorklund and I spent some time tallying a few harriers and kestrels but mostly we added sparrows and juncos along the ditch. The best birds of the afternoon were found in the Mason tree farm when I spotted two Cedar Waxwings near one of the service buildings. We also discovered 21 pheasants and a Cooper's Hawk.

The best find came when Bohlen and Oehmke discovered a Chipping Sparrow in with some juncos along one of the juniper windbreaks at the nursery. When evening came we finally made it back to the refuge headquarters and identified the swans which were better pinpointed by the refuge personnel during our afternoon forays. There were 13 Tundra Swans as well as five Trumpeter Swans all with green and yellow collar-bands signifying they had come form Wisconsin's re-introduction program. As daylight faded we recorded two Greater White-fronted Geese off one of the refuge dikes which we had not seen earlier but had been reported several days before and up to the count day.

Our team recorded 69 species and 255,584 individuals for the day. I left the team behind and headed for Chicago. At least three more counts to go!

Chicago Lakefront.

25 December. Christmas Day is usually spent under the tree with Santa and the kids. Not this year! The Chicago Lakefront Count which is almost always held on Christmas Day - after all it *is* a Christmas Bird Count - was one I had never before experienced. The Chicago lakefront's monolithic skyline as a backdrop for birding was as good of a change for the normal Christmas Day as I could get.

I will always remember the Christmas Day Surprise (Stokie 1992) when the state's first CBC Ivory Gull appeared on this count at Montrose Harbor. I was out of state visiting relatives and missed the bird. Who knows? I thought. Maybe I'll find a rarity like the Ivory Gull.

The mission assigned by compiler Joel Greenberg was to be at Meigs Field at dawn to look for Snowy Owls. Since none had been reported and it was not a Snowy Owl flight year, I was doubtful about any success. Nevertheless, I stood my vigil scanning the runways seeing only a goldeneye or Herring Gull offshore. The most interesting find was a drake Hooded Merganser off the 12th Street beach and an American Robin (my first in seven counts) along the parkway to the Planetarium from Meigs Airport. Sixteen American Coots were off the Shedd Aquarium breakwater along with Common and Red-breasted Mergansers.

Soon I met Greenberg and Margot Milde. We headed to Navy Pier and Olive Park where we added an unusual Ruddy Duck out in the harbor off the Chicago Metropolitan Water District Plant. Greater Scaup and an occasional Lesser Scaup were also seen. With lakefront areas covered, I headed home to my parents for an early evening Christmas Dinner.

Evanston North Shore.

26 December 1994. 5 a.m. This is my *alma mater* count. I have been compiler for this count for 15 years since 1980 (with one year off) and have diligently computerized all of the data since 1962. I usually field some 50 plus observers and coordinate some 20-30 feeder observers. Owling has always been a tradition on this count, so when Bill Moskoff, Drew Cromwell, Scott Hickman, Debi Stolarik, John Csoka, and I met in Lake Forest near Fort Sheridan, Lake County, I was delighted to have little or no wind or traffic noise. This was a perfect situation for owls. We immediately counted two dueting Great Horned Owls without playing tape recordings. Soon we were treated to many wonderful views of Eastern Screech Owls.

As day broke along Lake Michigan, many Common Goldeneyes and Red-breasted Mergansers could be counted as well as an occasional Bufflehead. The birds we were looking for and are often quite distant from shore were Oldsquaws with their white heads and dark sides. My telescope picked up a raft of these birds about one-half mile out. We counted 110 Oldsquaws there, and later, at the north end of Highwood, we recorded 60 more.

We thoroughly searched the lake again off Forest Park Ave. where we recorded a bizarre hybrid Hooded Merganser X Common Goldeneye, 3,000 Greater Scaup with several Lesser Scaup mixed in, two Hooded Mergansers, and two Surf Scoters.

Landbirding the ravines in Lake Forest failed to turn up either a single Winter or Carolina Wren, no Pine Siskin, and not much else save a Red-bellied or Red-headed Woodpecker or two and an occasional White-breasted Nuthatch. My territory had never been as quiet! We did manage to shake out a few American Tree Sparrows at the east end of the old Fort Sheridan airport runway. Toward evening an accipiter shot in front of our car. An adult Sharp-shinned Hawk landed on the roof of an abandoned building momentarily for us to see quite well.

I'm biased because I always like the Evanston North Shore's CBC parties. Birds are counted from the most to least usual amid a big spread of at least two birds (turkeys), plus a dessert table that could clog your arteries for life. This year's grandest bird was the Pileated Woodpecker found at Ryerson Conservation Area by Rick Siebert and Alan Stokie along the Des Plaines River. New to the count was Laurence Binford's immature Trumpeter Swan. It had no collar band, but was still not countable. Several count highs of waterbirds were established including a state high of 2,815 Greater Scaup and a tied high of five Surf Scoters.

Waukegan.

1 January 1995. By the time the Waukegan Count rolls around I'm either buried in snow or it's just too cold to be birding. Neither was the case this year. While it was windy, there was no snow and Third Lake, the deepest in Lake County, was to-

tally open. The previous year we had 12,000 Canada Geese on this lake. This year our team's party of Mike Kutska of River Forest, Josh Engel of Evanston, and my two sons Evan and Daren counted a mere 6,500 geese, but the five Snow Geese were a nice addition. Other birds on the lake included an adult Trumpeter Swan (no collar), 14 Mute Swans, eight Canvasbacks, two Ring-necked Ducks, and a Great Blue Heron. When we weren't staring through the telescopes at waterbirds we chummed for gulls using our secret weapon, Wonder Bread. We often got Ring-billed and Herring Gulls quite close to shore, but no white-wingers were to be had this day.

Driving around our territory, I found an old abandoned, stark, unharvested brussels sprout field with a dirt construction black dirt mound and no birds in sight, until two Horned Larks suddenly double-noted overhead and landed in the bleakest place on earth. Withwisps of snow ruffling their plumage they occasionally sang before disappearing over the dirt mound.

I always walk a pine plantation in Gurnee hoping to find a rare owl or two and occasionally coming away with rarities such as an adult Goshawk or Sharp-shinned Hawk. This year's unusual birds in this track included a Great-horned Owl and a Northern Flicker. And just outside the grove I spotted a shrike low in the shrubby field east of the pines. We identified it as a Northern Shrike by the ghostly white crown and back and long, hooked bill plus a broken, bubbled-up eye in the middle of a narrow, black eye-line and light lower mandible. This was clearly a Northern Shrike invasion year.

The Waukegan countdown party is similar to Evanston North Shore's starting with the most to least common species. There were some good ones such as the Western Grebe at Waukegan Harbor (a state-first CBC record), the loitering Nashville Warbler in a ravine at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, and seven Thayer's Gulls (tied for state CBC all-time high count) along the lakefront. Our lonely two Horned Larks were the only ones for the count. There were several other Northern Shrike reports.

This species was my last bird of the nine-count CBC season, bringing my total to 105 species (not including Trumpeter Swan) and an estimated 500,000 individual birds. I had driven some 1,500 miles, hiked 20 miles, owled four hours, and hardly slept.

Would I ever stop counting? I guessed nine CBCs in one season was enough. Will anyone try 10 this year?

Johnson,
504 Crown Point Drive
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

The Illinois 1994 Christmas Bird Count

by David B. Johnson and Alan F. Stokie

Mild weather during the fall of 1994 in Illinois also prevailed during the 1994 Christmas Bird Count (CBC) period. Only 39 percent of the northern counts had any snow cover. Fifty-four percent of the counts had totally open water while the remaining had only partially frozen water. The mean low temperature was 27.5 F, the mean high 39.5 F (see table 1), 4 degrees higher than the 1993 CBC season. These weather conditions provided for excellent concentrations of lingering waterfowl and sparrows. Observers set 33 new all-time high counts for species in Illinois.

Fifty-nine count tallies were submitted representing 155 species. Rend Lake recorded 102 species, making it three consecutive years with more than 100. Four other counts recorded 90 species or higher. Cypress Creek had 98, as well as the highest number of individuals (1,083,908) and the highest number of new all-time high counts (9). Union County recorded 92 species; Horseshoe Lake and Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge each recorded 90.

The stellar find, and new to the state's Christmas count species list, was the near adult male **King Eider** recorded at Heidecke Lake, Grundy County on the Morris-Wilmington Count. Also new to the state CBC list were Waukegan's **Western Grebe** and Rend Lake's **Greater Yellow-**

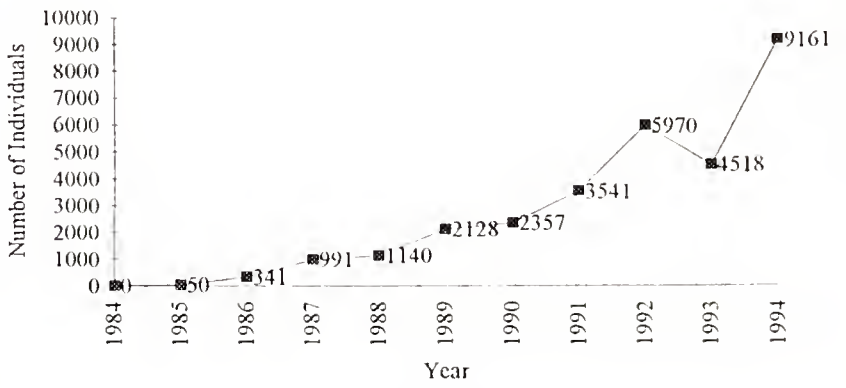
The sub-adult male King Eider, above, photographed 27 Jan. 1995 was initially found 2 Jan. 1995 on the Morris-Wilmington Christmas Bird Count at Heidecke Lake, Grundy County. This represents the first Illinois CBC record. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

legs (3) and **Lesser Yellowlegs** (3). While not a state first (fifth record), a well-described **Red-throated Loon**, was seen on the Middle Fork River Valley Count and a well described **Common Moorhen** was recorded again (second consecutive year) at Calumet City-Sand Ridge, Chicago. Other unusual birds seen included 2 American White Pelicans at Quincy; 3 Great Egrets photographed at Joliet; solitary Ross' Geese at Rend Lake, Cypress Creek, and Horseshoe Lake; 5 Surf Scoters in central and southern Illinois which might signal a change in this species' status possibly due to the zebra mussel explosion; a Golden Eagle at Savannah and Union County; 1 Virginia Rail at Joliet; 1 Sora at W. Mercer; single Northern Saw-whet Owls at Middlefork, Forest Glen, and Clinton Lake; a solitary Fish Crow at Cypress Creek; single American Pipits at Champaign (present for some time), Cypress Creek, and Horseshoe Lake; 1 Orange-crowned Warbler at Cypress Creek; 1 Nashville Warbler at Waukegan; Brewer's Blackbirds in central Illinois (Clinton Lake, Muscatine, IA); and 2 immature Indigo Buntings at Horseshoe Lake. Two well-described Chipping Sparrows were recorded at Union and Chautauqua. A lingering Le Conte's Sparrow was at Decatur in central Illinois and a lone Harris' Sparrow was recorded at W. Mercer. Count week birds included a **Mew Gull** at Evanston North Shore and a dead **Northern Parula**, now an Illinois State Museum specimen, from Cypress Creek. Recorded on the count but seen in a different state were 7 exotic Chukars (Iowa).

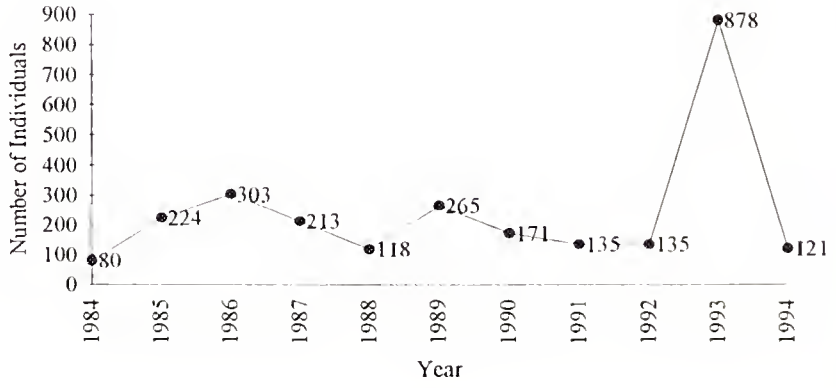
Also unusual were the all-time high state counts for many species. Rend Lake counted a record 10 Common Loons, **864** Double-crested Cormorants (see histogram); and 16 Least Sandpipers; 44 migrating Tundra Swans were recorded on the Morton Arboretum (Lisle) count; 6 Trumpeter Swans (reintroduced) were at Clinton Lake; and 143 Mute Swans were at Calumet City-Sand Ridge. A record 62 Greater White-fronted Geese and 289 Northern Shovelers were recorded at Cypress Creek. Chautauqua had 1,071 Gadwall. 2,815 Greater Scaup and 5 Surf

Histograms

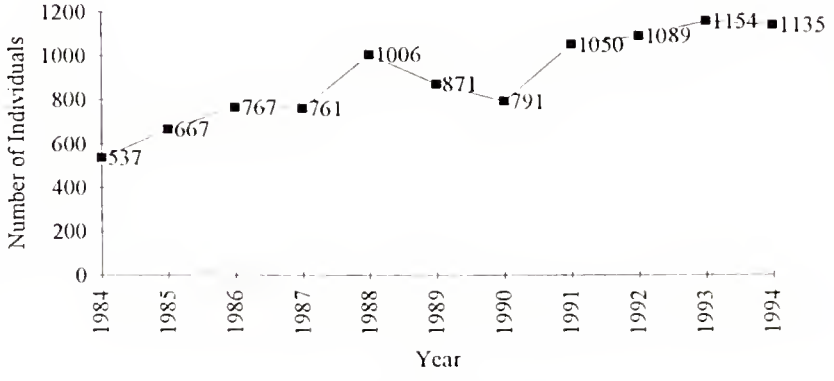
House Finch



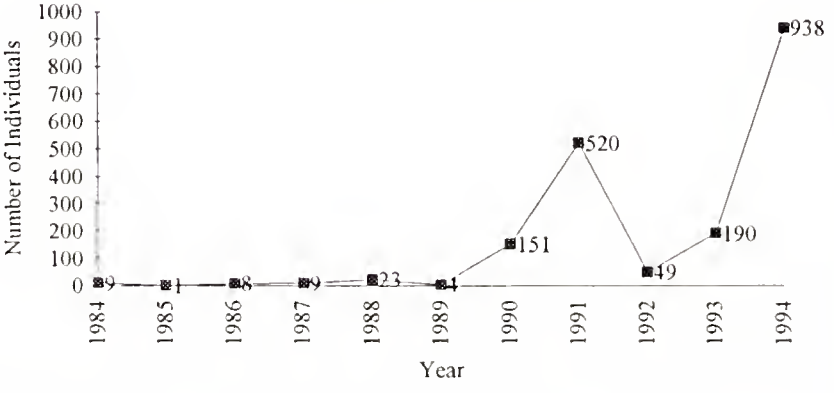
Red-breasted Nuthatch



Bald Eagle

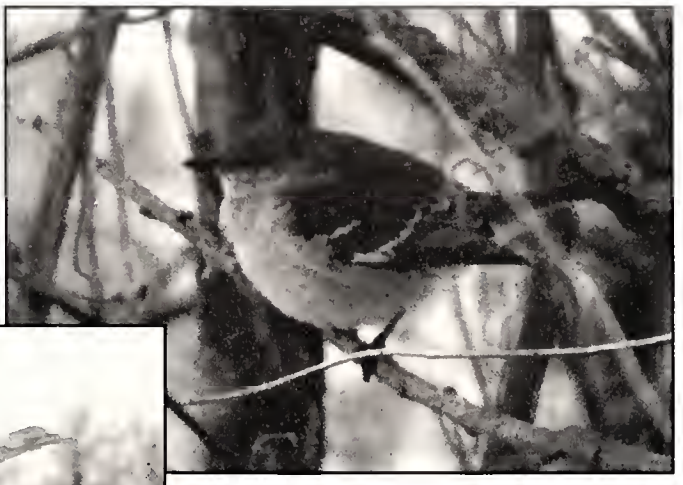


Double-crested Cormorant



These Great Egrets were tallied 26 Dec. 1994 at Joliet's Christmas Bird Count, Channahon, Will County. They represent the first record for this count. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

This Northern Mockingbird was tallied 2 Jan. 1995 on the Morris-Wilmington Christmas Bird Count in Braidwood, Will County. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.



Adult Glaucous Gull (left) tallied 2 Jan. 1995 on the Morris-Wilmington, Grundy County, Christmas Bird Count. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

Scoters were Evanston's contribution to the state's record highs. Calumet-Sand Ridge recorded 107 Bufflehead. McHenry's 70 Sandhill Cranes set a new state record. Waukegan, once again, tied the Thayer's Gull count (7) by two birders literally throwing massive amounts (70+) of loaves of Wonder Bread into Lake Michigan. This nonstop chumming for one hour brought in not only the Thayer's Gulls, but also Bonaparte's and Glaucous Gulls. Schapville submitted a record Red-tailed Hawk count (184). American Kestrel (111), Northern Harrier (73), and Short-eared Owl (19) numbers were spectacular on the Cypress Creek Count. In addition, Cypress Creek's excellent bottomland forest provided habitat for record numbers of woodpeckers: 738 Red-headed Woodpeckers, 109 Hairy Woodpeckers, and 291 Northern Flickers. Good numbers of Carolina Wrens (254) were at Cypress Creek. Kishwaukee recorded a state high of 95 Brown Creepers. Mild weather likely contributed to Union County's record Eastern Bluebird count of 199 individuals. Crab Orchard recorded a record 5 Pine Warblers and Rend Lake even added one.

Many observers statewide commented on the unusual numbers of lingering sparrows. The fallow levee bottomlands along the Mississippi River provided excellent wintering habitat for many sparrows. Union County recorded 894 Song Sparrows and 654 Swamp Sparrows, both new state high counts from the levee-lands. Cypress Creek recorded 23 Le Conte's Sparrows, a respectable total although not a state high count. Finally, House Finch (see histogram) numbers continue to explode with a new state high of 708 individuals recorded at Union County.

An adult Peregrine Falcon was tallied 26 Dec. 1994 at St. Raymond's Cathedral in Joliet, Will County on a Christmas Bird Count. This is the first record for the Joliet count. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

In the avian exotica department a state record 27 Monk Parakeets were at Chicago's lakefront.

The best irruptive species was the Northern Shrike; 31 individuals were recorded in 17 count circles and many compilers reported all-time high counts for this species. In contrast, irruptive winter finches were almost nil. Pine Siskins were

Field Sparrow documented 2. Jan. 1995 in Goose Lake Prairie State Park on the Morris-Wilmington Illinois Christmas Bird Count. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

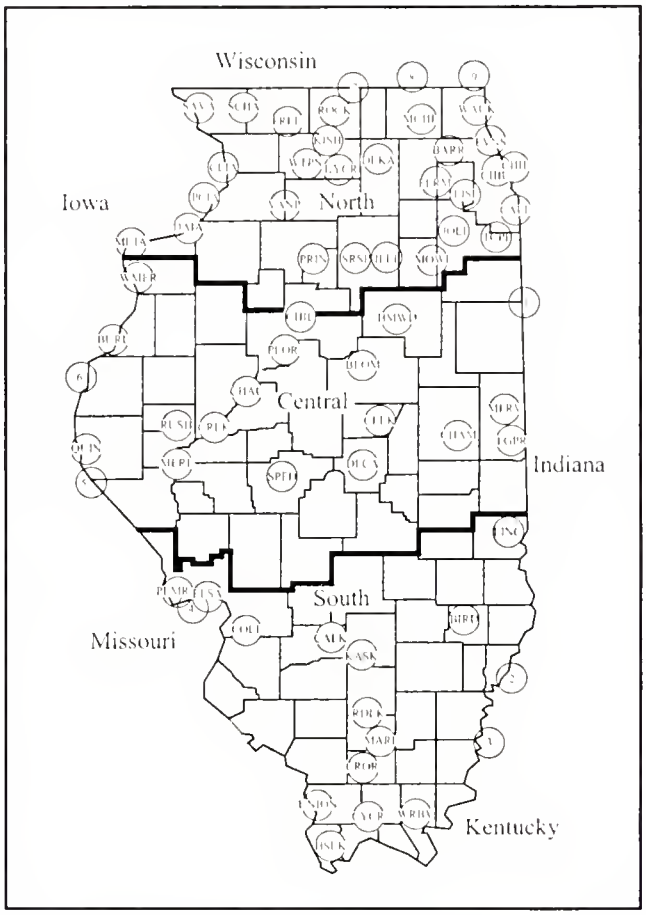
sparse with only 61 individuals (in 14 count circles) recorded for the entire state. Rockford and Van Patten recorded the only Evening Grosbeaks (4) plus 6 Red Crossbills were recorded on 2 counts.

Many compilers submitted analyses of their counts. All compilers commented on the excellent waterfowl counts. In addition, several counts had the swoop of the swans or the swan hat-trick (3 species).

American Coots lingered longer this year. Richard Bjorklund's (Chautauqua) report of more immature Bald Eagles (41 versus 37 adults) indicates this species has had continued reproductive success (see histogram). Raptors were reported in strong numbers this year. Turkey Vultures lingered longer at Van Patten with 3 well-described birds reported there. Rend Lake's Sandhill Crane certainly was unusual for southern Illinois. Denis Kania (Fermilab) mentioned that gulls "are really exploding." Ring-billed Gulls, indeed, seem to be recorded in high numbers. Charles Wescott (Barrington) noted the continued expansion of the Red-bellied Woodpeeker as a record high number was reported on that count (as well as Evanston [North Shore]) All compilers lamented the almost non-existent Red-breasted Nuthatches after last year's record numbers (see histogram). Additional compiler comments included the absence of berry-eating species such as Cedar Waxwings and American Robins. Evanston, however, had 1,763 American Robins due to an excellent buckthorn crop.

Due to the mild weather, unusual birds such as Savannah Sparrow and Lincoln's Sparrow were recorded in the northern circles with greater frequency and many compilers commented on the record number of sparrows.

Nearly 12 percent of the party hours of this year's counts was spent feeder watching. What bias or effect this has on the species that visit feeders and those found in the field is an interesting issue. In a recent article, Dunn (1995) suggested there is a potential problem if the analysis of Christmas Count data are used to validate population trends for species which visit feeders often, particularly in more southern latitudes. Dunn suggested that compilers should record birds seen by feeder-watchers separately from those reported by field participants. We strongly urge all Illinois CBC compilers to record data in this manner, even though there is no organized form to accomplish these data collections. In any event, the relatively low feeder watching effort in our state may inflate certain species totals in just a moderate level, an effort, however, which cannot be ignored.



Acknowledgments

Thanks to Vernon Kleen and H. David Bohlen who provided valuable comments on this report. Also, we welcome the new southern Illinois count, Warbluff Valley Wildlife Sanctuary this year. Burlington, Iowa reported its count to this publication, since a portion of its circle encompasses Illinois. Returning this year was the Savannah Army Depot count in northwestern Illinois and the Marion count in southern Illinois. Finally, congratulations to Fermilab-Batavia for fielding the highest number of observers in the state (82) and Peter C. Petersen of Davenport, Iowa who completed his **227**th CBC and has served as compiler 164 times.

Addenda

Add to last year's 1993 CBC one count week **Pacific Loon** at Clinton Lake and a count week Common Yellowthroat at Chicago Urban. Finally, supporting details were submitted for the state's first winter and CBC count week **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** (2 at Carlyle Lake).

Editor's Note: *This year's Christmas count period will run from 16 December 1995 - 2 January 1996. Please contact your compilers to find out how you can help participate in this nationally known scientific and social event.*

Literature Cited

Dunn, E.H. 1995. Bias in Christmas Bird Counts for species that visit feeders. Wilson Bull. 107:122-130.

Johnson, 504 Crown Point Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Stokie, 174 E. Kathleen Drive, Park Ridge, IL 60068

Illinois '94 Christmas Bird Count: Table 1

Count Name	Map I.D.	Date	Time		Temp		Sky	Snow	Water	Wind	Wind	Veloc	Field	Feeder	Feeder	Parties	Party	Party	Owling	Owling	Compiler	Area
			Begin	*End*	*Low*	*High*				Direction	*Low*	*High*	Observs	Observs	Hours		Hours	Miles	Hours	Miles		
Barrington	BARR	19-Dec	0700	1615	25	33	Cldy,Prtly Cldy	6.00	Prtly Froz	E-SE	1	4	32	2	8.00	16	86.50	476.25	2.00	4.00	C A Westcott	
Calumet City-Sand Ridge	CALU	31-Dec	0645	1645	34	35	Cldy	0.00	Open	NNE	7	12	46	6	9.00	21	90.50	443.80	0.00	0.00	M Baker & P Strand	
Chicago Lakefront	CHI L	25-Dec	0700	1500	36	45	Prtly Cldy	0.00	Prtly Froz	N	8	12	18	0	0.00	1-4	17.50	62.50	0.00	0.00	Joel Greenberg	
Chicago Urban	CHI U	18-Dec	0400	1600	32	37	Cldy, Clear	2.00	Prtly Froz	W	8	15	17	7	7.00	10-12	77.00	360.00	2.00	4.00	Jeffrey Sanders	
Clinton IA-Savanna Fulton	CL IA	23-Dec	0530	1700	31	39	Prtly Clear/Cldy	0.00	Prtly Froz	N	5	12	7	1	2.00	3	30.00	115.00	2.50	27.00	Peter C Petersen	
De Kalb	DE KA	18-Dec	0700	1630	28	31	Cldy, Clear	0.00	Open	NW	7	10	17	2	5.60	6	43.75	133.50	0.00	0.00	Steve Messenger	
Evanston North Shore	EVNS	26-Dec	0530	1700	26	48	Clear	0.00	Open	SW	3	13	60	24	24.00	16-21	199.00	661.00	3.50	17.00	D B Johnson	
Fermi Lab-Batavia	FERM	17-Dec	0500	1645	33	42	Cldy,Clear	0.50	Open	W-SW	6	15	82	3	6.00	10-26	140.50	448.00	4.50	14.00	Denis Kania	
Freeport	FREE	2-Jan	0500	1600	7	15	Clear	2.00	Prtly Froz	SW	14	14	16	6	36.00	5	42.50	422.00	3.00	52.00	Keith Blackmore	
Illini State Park	ILLI	18-Dec	0530	1700			Cloudy	0.00	Open	NW	5	15	12	5	15.00	4	33.50	294.25	2.00	14.00	Jim Hampson	
Joliet	JOLI	26-Dec	0700	1700	24	47	Prtly Cldy	0.00	Prtly Froz	S	5	10	10	2	2.00	8	58.50	416.50	2.00	10.00	Jerry Olson	N
Kishwaukee	KISH	31-Dec	0700	1700	27	32	Cldy,LtSnow	0.00	Open	N	10	10	26	4	15.50	12-13	83.75	572.50	1.50	0.75	Alan Branhagen	
Kyte Creek	KYCR	26-Dec	0900	1700	32	48	Clear	2.00	PrtlyFroz	S	5	10	4	2	2.00	3	12.00	64.50	0.00	0.00	Everette H Cooley	O
Lisle Arboretum	LISL	18-Dec	0500	1730	33	34	Prtly Cldy	0.00	Prtly Froz	NW	14	18	58	1	2.00	20	144.50	561.50	9.75	50.50	S Friscia	
McHenry Audubon	MCHE	17-Dec	0700	1700	30	38	Clear	6.00	Prtly Froz	SW	0	10	41	3	2.00	16	78.75	568.60	3.50	15.50	David A Frey	R
Morris-Wilmington	MOWI	2-Jan	0715	1630	11	22	Clear, Cldy	0.00	Prtly Froz	W	5	10	16	5	5.00	9	80.50	561.00	0.00	0.00	John Stofan	
Muscatine IA-IL City	MU IA	26-Dec	0600	1700	19	49	Clear	0.00	Prtly Froz	S	5	10	10	7	14.00	5	37.50	397.00	5.00	52.00	Peter C Petersen	I
Princeton-Bureau	PRIN	26-Dec	0515	1630	28	34	Cloudy	0.00	Open	NW	0	5	5	0	0.00	2	17.00	171.00	0.00	0.00	Steven Shipp	
Princeton-Cordova	PC IA	22-Dec	0515	1700	29	42	Cloudy	0.00	Open	SE	5	15	7	4	4.00	3	32.00	344.00	4.00	54.00	Peter C Petersen	H
Quad Cities	DA IA	18-Dec	0430	1700	17	27	Cloudy	0.00	Prtly Open	NW	5	12	24	14	8.00	11	69.00	601.00	8.00	70.00	Peter C Petersen	
Rockford	ROCK	17-Dec	0700	1700	30	38	Clear	4.00	Prtly Open	W	3	3	31	2	4.00	12-15	96.25	577.50	1.00	1.00	Dan Williams	
Savannah Army Depot	SAVA	20-Dec	850	1403	30	40	Prtly Cldy, Clear	4.00	Prtly Open	SW	10	10	5	0	0.00	2	19.00	137.00	0.00	0.00	John Bergstrom	
Schapville	SCHA	2-Jan	730	1630	8	20	Clear	3.00	Prtly Froz	W	5	10	7	0	0.00	5	32.00	360.00	1.00	1.00	Terrance N Ingram	
Starved Rock State Park	SRSP	2-Jan	0545	1700	12	30	Prtly Clear	0.01	Prtly Froz	SW	8	10	14	0	0.00	7	58.25	396.50	3.75	30.00	John McKee	
Thorn Creek-Park Forest	TCPF	2-Jan	0600	1700	10	22	Clear	2.00	Prtly Froz	W	10	20	33	18	36.00	13	86.50	534.00	2.25	1.00	Aura Duke	
Van Patten	VANP	1-Jan	0645	1700	14	20	Clear	3.00	Prtly Froz	SW	15	15	14	2	4.00	6	45.00	456.00	0.25	5.00	Gary Pfiefle	
Waukegan	WAUK	1-Jan	0500	1700	17	22	Prtly Cldy	2.00	Prtly Froz	W	12	18	34	39	58.00	9-13	102.00	407.00	5.50	35.00	Joel Greenberg	
White Pines	WTPN	27-Dec	0800	1630	31	50	Clear	0.00	Prtly Froz	SW	0	15	14	5	10.00	7	44.00	145.00	4.00	2.00	Jerry McCormick	
Bloomington- Normal	BLOM	31-Dec	0730	1630	32	34	Cldy	0.00	Open	NW	0	5	11	0	0.00	6	36.00	165.00	0.00	0.00	Dale Burkenholz	
Burlington, IA	BURL	17-Dec	?	?			?	?	Open	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Charles Fuller	C
Champaign County	CHAM	17-Dec	500	1645	32	46	Cldy,Prtly Clear	0.00	Open	W	10	10	18	4	8.00	11	64.00	312.40	1.50	35.00	Helen M Parker	
Chautauqua N W R	CHAU	23-Dec	0610	1630	32	37	Cldy	0.00	Prtly Froz	N	5	12	18	0	0.00	**8-7**	53.75	283.75	1.00	10.00	Richard O Bjorklund	E
Chillicothe	CHIL	17-Dec	700	1630	32	44	Cldy,Clear	0.00	Prtly Froz	S	5	15	27	0	0.00	9-10	75.00	544.50	0.00	0.00	Richard Collins	
Clinton Lake	CLLK	18-Dec	515	1700	29	30	Cloudy, light snow	0.01	Open	NW	10	15	14	0	0.00	6	48.50	287.00	1.50	16.00	Myrna Deaton	N
Crane Lake-Sangamon	CRLK	17-Dec	0700	1700	32	49	Cldy	0.00	Prtly Froz	WSW	0	10	8	0	0.00	**6**	40.50	309.00	0.00	0.00	Robert Q Randall	
Decatur	DECA	17-Dec	0500	1700	28	50	Partly Cldy	0.00	Open	W	5	10	8	3	12.00	5	27.00	196.00	0.75	16.00	Myrna Deaton	I
Forest Glen Preserve	FGPR	26-Dec	0630	1700	24	51	Foggy	0.00	Open		0	0	19	0	0.00	12	77.00	351.75	0.00	0.00	M F Campbell	
Humiston Woods	HMWD	19-Dec	0644	1702	24	40	Cldy,Clear	0.00	Open	SW	5	10	20	5	20.00	?	27.00	105.00	0.00	0.00	Joe Jobst	R
Meredosia Island	MERE	2-Jan	0645	1700	5	29	Clear	0.00	Prtly Froz	NW	10	10	7	0	0.00	3	27.00	444.00	0.00	0.00	Tony Ward	
Middle Fork River Valley	MFRV	1-Jan	0330	1700	13	32	Cloudy, light snow	0.01	Open	W	10	15	11	2	3.00	7-8	47.25	209.50	3.00	37.00	Steven D Bailey	A
Peoria	PEOR	31-Dec	0645	1700	31	35	Partly Cloudy	0.00	Prtly Froz	N	0	8	25	5	5.00	10	78.00	455.30	0.00	0.00	Louise H Endres	
Quincy,IL-Marion Co.MO	QUIN	31-Dec	0500	1630	34	35	Cldy,foggy,Cldy	0.00	Open	N	5	15	9	0	0.00	5	32.00	294.00	1.00	20.00	Al Dierkes	L
Rushville	RUSH	17-Dec	0700	1500	32	40	Partly Cldy,Clear	0.00	Prtly Froz	SW	5	5	5	25	40.00	3	9.50	36.00	0.00	0.00	Harold E Hedden	
Springfield	SPFD	18-Dec	0400	1700	20	33	Cldy	0.00	Open	NW	5	20	10	2	6.00	5	41.00	281.00	3.00	35.00	H David Bohlen	
Western Mercer	WMER	20-Dec	0515	1700	33	45	Clear, Partly Cldy	0.00	Open	S	5	12	14	0	0.00	5	46.00	369.00	5.00	62.00	Peter C Petersen	
Bird Haven Sanctuary-Olney	BIRD	17-Dec	0700	1700	38	45	Prtly Clear	0.00	Open	W	10	10	15	1	2.00	8	68.00	502.00	0.00	0.00	Frank E Storment	
Carlyle Lake	CALK	18-Dec	0645	1710	35	41	Prtly Cldy, Clear	0.00	Open	W	8	8	3	0	0.00	3	30.00	270.00	3.50	34.50	Dan Kassebaum	
Collinsville	COLL	17-Dec	0730	1630	34	58	Clear	0.00	Open	SW	8	8	8	2	2.00	5	41.50	350.00	0.00	0.00	L B Hendrickson	S
Crab Orchard N.W.R	CROR	17-Dec	0430	1630	28	52	Clear	0.00	Open	SW	0	5	19	0	0.00	5	49.50	233.00	1.50	7.00	Tracy R Evans	
Cypress Creek	CYCR	21-Dec	0635	1700	38	50	Idy, light rain, Cld	0.00	Open	SW	0	5	22	0	0.00	14-15	140.00	593.50	3.50	53.25	Judy K DeNeal	O
Elsah	ELSA	31-Dec	730	1600	40	40	Overcast, drizzle	0.00	Open	?	?	?	10	0	0.00	3	14.00	71.00	0.00	0.00	Taylor DeLaney	
Horseshoe Lake	HSLK	20-Dec	0600	1730	34	53	Clear	0.00	Open	SE	0	8	12	0	0.00	6-7	59.00	237.00	1.50	8.00	Vernon Kleen	U
Kaskaskia Audubon	KASK	17-Dec	715	1602	28	48	Foggy, Cloudy	0.00	Prtly Froz	?	?	?	3	0	0.00	1	8.47	54.58	0.00	0.00	Joe Merkelbach	
Lincoln Trail State Park	LINC	17-Dec	0637	1615	34	46	Prtly Clear	0.00	Open	SE	5	10	28	0	0.00	9	50.50	293.25	0.00	0.00	Don Watts	T
Marion	MARI	17-Dec	0715	1415	31	52	Clear	0.00	Open	S	15	15	2	0	0.00	1	6.50	68.00	0.00	0.00	Homer Buck	
Pere Marquette Park	PEMR	17-Dec	0800	1700	35	55	Foggy, Clear	0.00	Open	SW	0	3	34	0	0.00	9	69.50	362.00	0.00	0.00	Bob Thomas	H
Rend Lake	RDLK	17-Dec	0630	1700	32	50	Clear, Foggy, Clear	0.00	Open	SW	0	7	12	0	0.00	8	84.25	499.50	8.00	92.00	Todd Fink	
Union County	UNION	22-Dec	0530	1730	45	54	Clear, Cloudy	0.00	Open	SE/NW	0/3	5/8	19	0	0.00	10-12	93.00	380.00	1.50	15.00	Vernon Kleen	
Warbluff Valley Sanctuary	WRBV	19-Dec	0635	1708	22	43	Clear	0.00	Open	NW	5	5	19	17	0.00	5-Jan	39.05	237.90	0.00	0.00	Tim Dever	
					27.48	39.54							1071	213	376.5		3300.97	19943.925	107.25	900.5		
					AvLow	AvHi							Total	Total	Total		Total	Total	Total	Total		

Key to Tables

Code	Description–
cw	count week only (3 days before or after)
NC	New to the state's Count species list
nc	new species to that circle's count
HC	all-time High Count for the state
hc	high count for that circle
*	documented species
**	specimen
ps	present for sometime
ph	photographed
?	Questionable or no details
boldface	species/number/ item of note

Species	WAUK	EVNS	CHI U	CHI L	CALU	MCHE	BARR	FERM	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	MOWI	DE KA	ILLI	ROCK	KISH	KYCR	SRSP	TOTALS
Common Loon					1														
Pied-billed Grebe	1		1		3						2	16		5				6	
Horned Grebe		6 hc												8					
Western Grebe	**1* NC**																		1
Double-crested Cormorant	cw				15				1			7				1*nc			
Great Blue Heron	2	6	1			2		11	5	2	5	3	2	31	7	1		4	
Great Egret											**3*nc, ph**								3
Black-crowned Night-Heron			2		12						1								15
Tundra Swan		1*							**44*HC**										
[Trumpeter Swan]	[1*]	1* nc-im]																	
Mute Swan	14	2			**143 HC**	12	7			6									
Snow Goose	5	2	1			2		3	46		1	6		20	3				
Canada Goose	12943	7471	1002 hc	128	1359	4477	5957	29840hc	13860	1206	1141	7206	2698	19148	6305	310	110	1187	
Wood Duck	2		8		3		7hc	2	1	2					cw				
Green-winged Teal		3	3		1						4			29				1	
American Black Duck	99	39	17		4	15	31	60	15		11	118		279	24	1			
Mallard	2149	2342	1824	124	1329	518	1548	2558	1500	542	725	4487	297	8035	2169	542	2	458	
Northern Pintail			2								1			1	1				
Blue-winged Teal					3*														
Northern Shoveler	1	1	2								cw	11			2				
Gadwall	13	5	12 hc		17			2	55		113	167		31	cw				
American Wigeon	16	1	6		1		1	1			18	9		4					
Canvasback	10	5 hc			9						4	18		2	1			2	
Redhead	**164 HC**	3	1	1 nc							6								
Ring-necked Duck	2		22 hc		9		1				185	20						2	
Greater Scaup	165	**2815 HC**		3							2								
Lesser Scaup	25	4	2	3	2649		1				30	22						6	
scaup sp				130															
King Elder												**1*NC-ph**							1
Oldsquaw	cw	290		2															
Surf Scoter	2	**5* HC**																	
Common Goldeneye	241	1431	33	218	142	33	99	72	12		44	850		123	9	9		40	
C Goldeneye X Hooded M		1*																	
Bufflehead	92	34	4	36	**107 HC**	5					10	19						1	
Hooded Merganser	13	2	2	1	5	2		2			12	41		34		cw			
Common Merganser	50	7	1	40	30		5	4	13		15	3084		2107	20hc			134	
Red-breasted Merganser	95	327 hc	22	383	62	4			3			7							
Ruddy Duck	1	1		1							3	2						2	
duck sp					2		2								4				
Bald Eagle						1		1	cw						3			6	
Northern Harrier	1				1	1	1	6		8	4	5		32	2			10	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	2	2		2	3	3	5	3	3	1	2	1	1	6hc	1		3	
Cooper's Hawk	2	5 hc	1		4	4	2	5	7	3	2	3	1	3	5	5		1	
Northern Goshawk					1				2							cw			
accitpiter sp		1							2						2				
Red-shouldered Hawk		2					2		1									2	
Red-tailed Hawk	38	53 hc	8	2	51	69	51	93hc	113	57	39	70	26	28	109hc	71	4	48	
Rough-legged Hawk	cw		1		5	2	2	2	1	5	4	5	6	16	19	3	4	3	
American Kestrel	13	19	17 hc	2	46	18	36hc	54hc	39	22	28	21	23	26	40hc	39		18	

Species	WAUK	EVNS	CHIU	CHIL	CALU	MCHE	BARR	FERM	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	MOWI	DEKA	ILLI	ROCK	KISH	KYCR	SRSP	TOTALS
Merlin															1*nc				
Peregrine Falcon				2	3*						1*nc, ph								
hawk sp	1				1		2	2		6									
falcon sp										2									
Gray Partridge														15	2				
Ring-necked Pheasant		3				22	4	94	2	22	1	27	14	48	92	16	2	6	
Wild Turkey						5		5							5	6			
Northern Bobwhite																2nc			
Virginia Rail											1								1
Common Moorhen					**1***														1
American Coot	209	cw	6 hc		604		10hc	1	10		6	590	1	6				52	
Sandhill Crane						**70 HC**	cw-3						18						
Killdeer					2					cw									
Common Snipe		11 hc						1					1		4			1	
Bonaparte's Gull	39	cw	20		1									150					
[Mew Gull]		**cw***																	1-cw
Ring-billed Gull	1218	2073	1280 hc	1813	3115	103	1746hc	393hc	1295	51	213	297	7	1637	11	19		276	
Herring Gull	411	1072	244	264	4733	27	117	504hc	445	3	19	2199		87	cw	110hc		333	
Thayer's Gull	**7 HC**	1	2		1														
Lesser Black-backed Gull				cw	2*				cw*										
Glaucous Gull	2											1							
Great Black-backed Gull					1*														1
gull sp.	240	142		441	35		104	49	77	36		85			1	9			
Rock Dove	171	664	2300	491	1235	873	666	435hc	1282	322	349	224	183	125	964hc	930	67	199	
Mourning Dove	458	396	125		549	449	143	529	304	369	523	134	203	22	758hc	625	19	212	
Eastern Screech-Owl	10	19	3			6		12	18	3	3	2		5		3		3	
Great Horned Owl	8	9	8		4	6	7	18	19	15	5	2	3	7	21hc	12	3	3	
Barred Owl	1							1		1				2	16hc	4		3	
Long-eared Owl						3		2		6									
Short-eared Owl							1							3				1	
owl sp.							1								2	1			
Belted Kingfisher	2	2	4		2	2	4	8	5	1	2	7	3	1	7	10	1	1	
Red-headed Woodpecker		13	1		1	11	2	3	18	48	4	9	3		4	2		4	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	45	68 hc	13 hc		27	34	40hc	43	97	53	10	27	10	20	63hc	62	2	53	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			1		2	1	1	3	2						2				
Downy Woodpecker	96	171	121	3	68	69	103	170hc	182	64	30	81	37	35	174	98	11	64	
Hairy Woodpecker	23	55	39 hc		5	9	8	20	18	7	7	13	7	7	33	27	2	7	
Northern Flicker	8	17	1		11	3	9	27	64	10	3	14	5	9	35	29	2	7	
Pileated Woodpecker		1*												1				1	
woodpecker sp.																1			
Horned Lark	2	7	2			51	9	149		1215	22	466	74	105	155	105		208	
Blue Jay	82	123	40		164	224	79	106	369	244	35	77	59	24	264hc	201	37	110	
American Crow	379	1315	1070	7	1955	827	789	994	1162	593	258	293	947	167	2171	1748	155	273	
Black-capped Chickadee	528	644	241		211	473	366	657hc	848	211	203	172	76	80	451	340	28	217	
Tufted Titmouse	2	3	2		23			12	15	50	2	6		25	25	28	7	57	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	3	1		2	12	1		12	4		1	2		16	2	1		
White-breasted Nuthatch	48	87	29		29	66	32	79hc	155	80	12	37	16	31	147	101	7	77	
Brown Creeper	13	51	33		1	1	15	45hc	32	3	12	39	10	13	71hc	**95 HC**		24	
Carolina Wren		2					cw		3	1	1	1		1		cw		3	

Species	WAUK	EVNS	CHI U	CHI L	CALU	MCHE	BARR	FERM	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	MOWI	DE KA	ILLI	ROCK	KISH	KYCR	SRSP	TOTALS
Winter Wren	3	cw		cw		2	1	3	1		3	2				3			
Golden-crowned Kinglet					4	4	1	3	18	cw		6			19	8			
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1							2			1			1*	1*nc			
Eastern Bluebird								3	12						1				
Hermit Thrush		1	4 hc						2										
Catharus sp									1						1				
American Robin	287	1763	62	4	21	9	152	293hc	416	1	17	7	3		3	17		5	
Gray Catbird							1*									1*nc			
Northern Mockingbird												2							
Brown Thrasher								1		1									
Cedar Waxwing	90	105	18			26	234	231	824						182hc	416hc		1	
Northern Shrike	3	2	1		1	1	1	4hc	2			2			4hc	4hc		1	
European Starling	4847	24228 hc	3200	81	3625	1371	1476	2283hc	4244	1150	1475	2750	1391	2105	2823	5652	389	6719	
Nashville Warbler	**1* nc**																		1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	8	11	13		3			1	41			6				8hc		1	
Northern Cardinal	225	362	195	5	175	185	240	320	325	235	90	171	76	57	343	308	21	106	
Rufous-sided Towhee									1						1		2		
American Tree Sparrow	244	222	43		400	344	306	1197	840	787	223	544	101	214	720	1248	35	446	
Field Sparrow							2			6*		1		2	3*	1*			
Savannah Sparrow								1*						1					
Fox Sparrow		cw	1		1		1		cw			2		1					
Song Sparrow	21	50	22 hc		34	33	47	69	63	18	32	18	48	19	202	57	1	16	
Lincoln's Sparrow								1*nc							1*nc				
Swamp Sparrow		16 hc	1		5	38	14	12	10		4	2	5	8	23	6		1	
White-throated Sparrow	3	8	42 hc			2	6	5	23	14		35	6	9	2	3		2	
White-crowned Sparrow		4	2		7	2		1		1		34	4	1	1				
Dark-eyed Junco	384	645	202	11	513	541	1006	719	597	525	349	519	366	382	1672	1261	46	1224	
Lapland Longspur		1 sp	4							39		5		10	126	30			
Snow Bunting	5							2		cw			4	329	13	230			
sparrow sp																2			
Red-winged Blackbird	4270	18	5		5061		31	26	24	16	241	278	1	116	1			2174	
Eastern Meadowlark	2	1						7hc	1	9									
meadowlark sp													1						
Rusty Blackbird			1					2	1	1	12	47							
blackbird sp		1			400							50							
Common Grackle	321	87	14 hc		26	38	2	3	cw		53	970		283		1		1034	
Brown-headed Cowbird	76	37	2		45	4			cw	cw	96	22	4	200		1		1461	
Purple Finch		3	5			7	2		4	5				4	4	4			
House Finch	347	231	284	6	222	146	355hc	288hc	253	283	123	131	79	2	508hc	657hc	24	60	
Red Crossbill															1				
Pine Siskin		7								1		3		2	4				
American Goldfinch	234	289	174 hc	10	258	147	107	298	415	187	92	60	39	48	298	150	53	139	
Evening Grosbeak															3				
House Sparrow	910	915	2900	97	858	1253	675	422	930	1183	470	983	463	332	1605	1186	15	510	
exotics [Monk Parakeet]	[4]		[6]	**[27 HC]**	[18]														[55]
[Ringed-turtle Dove]									[2-cw]		[34]								[34]
Total species	**73**	**78**	**73**	**27**	**73**	**60**	**60**	**70**	**66**	**54**	**67**	**76**	**45**	**68**	**70**	**59**	**28**	**63**	
Total individuals	**32450**	**50846**	**15778**	**4309**	**30463**	**12668**	**16675**	**43278**	**31207**	**9738**	**7416**	**27655**	**7324**	**36714**	**22791**	**16824hc**	**1050**	**18029**	

	Northern										Central										
SPECIES	FREE	WTPN	PRIN	VANP	SCHA	SAVA	CL IA	PC IA	DA IA	MU IA	MERV	FGPR	CHAM	HMWD	BLOM	CLLK	DECA	CHIL	PEOR	CHAU	TOTALS
Common Loon									1nc		cw					2					
Red-throated Loon											**1* nc**										1
Pied-billed Grebe							1				1		1			6	2	3		2	
Horned Grebe																3					
Double-crested Cormorant									7							1		2		2	
Great Blue Heron	1		12	2			2		1	3	3	8	3		5	8	7	19	9	26	
Tundra Swan							15 hc													13	73
[Trumpeter Swan]																[6]				[5]	[12]
Mute Swan																				1	
Greater White-fronted Goose																				2*	
Snow Goose			3										10	36	3	250		2		300	
Canada Goose	70	786	4910	553			143	95	613	522	258	46	809	1200	2131	10000	3895	1958	2111	51839	
Wood Duck							4		2	3						3 nc					
Green-winged Teal																32 hc			1	124	
American Black Duck			4				33	2	7	3	8				2	62	18	34	2	217	
Mallard	51	35	130	97			898	229	1950	228	298 hc	20	132	175	785	1382	324	4322	620	201781	
Northern Pintail									1				2		1	5	2			2003	
Northern Shoveler			1						1						1	18 hc	4	4	6	20	
Gadwall			10				8				16 hc				1	35	19	7		1071	
American Wigeon			17				1	1	3		2 nc				8	6	4			24	
Canvasback				2			358 hc		1							2	4	5		81	
Redhead									3		1 nc				4	1	1			4	
Ring-necked Duck									1		cw				2	46 hc	6			10	
Greater Scaup									1*							4 nc					
Lesser Scaup				4			711 hc	1	7	1	cw				1	65 hc	6			17	
Oldsquaw																	2 nc				
Common Goldeneye			10	85			1122 hc	284	544	27	cw				4	360	420	22	8	50	
Bufflehead							2		4	4						9	6		17	5	
Hooded Merganser				5					6		cw					35	10			16	
Common Merganser			90	80		2	418	150	343	105	cw				5	21	13	136	8	4071	
Red-breasted Merganser			20	4				4	11	1							2				
Ruddy Duck							1						1			1	3	7		30	
Turkey Vulture				3*																1	
Bald Eagle		4	21	3	cw	79	133	25	60	40						1		18	1	78	
Northern Harrier		3	1	6	cw		7	3	13hc	6	15 hc	2	1	8	3	8	2	11		10	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	1	3	4	2		3	1	1	6	2	3	1			2		1		2	
Cooper's Hawk			1	1	2		1	5 hc	4	1	cw	1	1		2	1	1			1	
Northern Goshawk				1	1						cw					2					7
Red-shouldered Hawk							1		1												
Red-tailed Hawk	74	33	31	29	**184 HC**	16	45	43 hc	65	93 hc	18	27	25	16	12	34	9	60	32	46	
Rough-legged Hawk	2	18		5	10	1	4	3	4	6	4	3	2			2	2	3		3	
Golden Eagle						1*															
American Kestrel	15	18	11	13	19		24 hc	53	50	38 hc	13	21	29	17	18	35	18	80	30	22	
Merlin																		1			2
hawk sp												2	1								
Gray Partridge				7																	24
Ring-necked Pheasant	4		2	16	cw		5	5	17	24	19	13	30	43	35	29	2	2		27	
Wild Turkey		45			**320 HC**	6		1	1	12		15	2			30		3		cw	
Northern Bobwhite				11				1	1	31				20			13				
[Chukar (in IA)]									[7nc]												

					Northern											*Central*					
SPECIES	FREE	WTPN	PRIN	VANP	SCHA	SAVA	CLIA	PCIA	DAIA	MUIA	MERV	FGPR	CHAM	HMWD	BLOM	CLLK	DECA	CHIL	PEOR	CHAU	TOTALS
American Coot									1		129				7	98 hc	29	105		279	
Killdeer			1				1		1	2			3		15		10	1	12		
Common Snipe							1		1				1			2		1			
Bonaparte's Gull																300 hc	107 hc				
Ring-billed Gull			100	26		468	137	191	1241	163	184 hc	15			13	5220 hc	7000	851	1761	162	
Herring Gull		3	123	75			591	122	483	63	2					20	4	19	8	24	
Thayer's Gull							1		1												
Glaucous Gull									1												
gull sp.																			118		
Rock Dove	514	137	51	179	189	3	140	146	1342	377	19	68	859	50	41	61	103	84	472	43	
Mourning Dove	86	61	56	138	39	1	39	302 hc	654 hc	273	225	267	351	80	158	203	81	209	316	53	
Eastern Screech-Owl			1	1	cw		7	4	7	8	10	26	18	3		4	2	1	2	2	
Snowy Owl		cw																			
Great Horned Owl	10	4	12	3	5		10	12	11	19	5	12	11	3	7	8	4	3	2	5	
Barred Owl			2		cw		1	1	7	10	4	12	6		3	4	2	4		1	
Long-eared Owl				2			1			2	cw	1	5		1	1					
Short-eared Owl				1				2	1		cw		1			1					
Northern Saw-whet Owl											1	1				1 nc					3
Belted Kingfisher	1	2	2	3	cw	1	1	4	4	5	6	7	5	3	1	6	1	4	1	4	
Red-headed Woodpecker		3	10	2	6		2	7	30	42	21	17	11	5	2	9	1	37	7		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	17	19	12	8	21	2	32	33	63	84	34	68	43	3	21	29	16	80	46	47	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1						2		2			1								1	
Downy Woodpecker	34	21	15	29	22	1	37	62	160	61	69	105	69	11	45	68	31	101	92	51	
Hairy Woodpecker	6	7	3	4	4		13	16	23	12	22	20	7	4	11	6	1	14	16	17	
Northern Flicker	5	4	8	2	4	5	18	11	8	12	7	8	10	11	6	20	7	32	6	15	
Pileated Woodpecker					1		2	5	3	4	11	15	4			1 nc	1		3	9	
woodpecker sp.					2																
Horned Lark	432	27	1	167	38	2	9	3	42	4	436	17	171	58	33	140	51	34		16	
Blue Jay	85	103	16	76	162	49	94	114	219	217	111	163	158	43	43	162	42	164	109	228	
American Crow	204	285	193	3270	380	57	227	273	999	387	52000	8245	648	145	373	613	431	371	630	241	
Black-capped Chickadee	81	87	27	125	72	10	128	147	537	254	cw		4 sp	34	143	284	85	278	232	115	
Carolina Chickadee											122	212	42								
Tufted Titmouse	12	27	18	8	16		36	28	60	61	80	253	40	6	65	29	47	120	78	44	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	3	1	4	1		2	3	3	1	cw	5	3		2	4	4	3			
White-breasted Nuthatch	34	45	20	21	18	8	53	51	187	63	52	131	41	14	24	24	14	84	64	61	
Brown Creeper	5	8		22			17	23	53	15	15	21	40		9	2	8	7	12	12	
Carolina Wren				1			3		6	2	27	32	35	1	7	9	36	5	7	11	
Winter Wren				1						1	2		4		1	3	2		cw	1	
Marsh Wren																					
Golden-crowned Kinglet				6	2		23	10	3		4	6	6 + 4 sp.				3	4		12	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet									2*											1	
Eastern Bluebird			3		cw	6	9			16	5	8		4				18			
Hermit Thrush													1								
American Robin	1							1	15	5	1	1	5	8	2	5	16	5	8	7	
Gray Catbird													1*	1	cw						
Northern Mockingbird											1	2			1		3	4		4	
Brown Thrasher															1						
American Pipit													1*								
Cedar Waxwing		1	5	17		9	7	10	26		1		1	2		35	2	44	10	35	
Northern Shrike			1	1	1				1*							1* nc					33

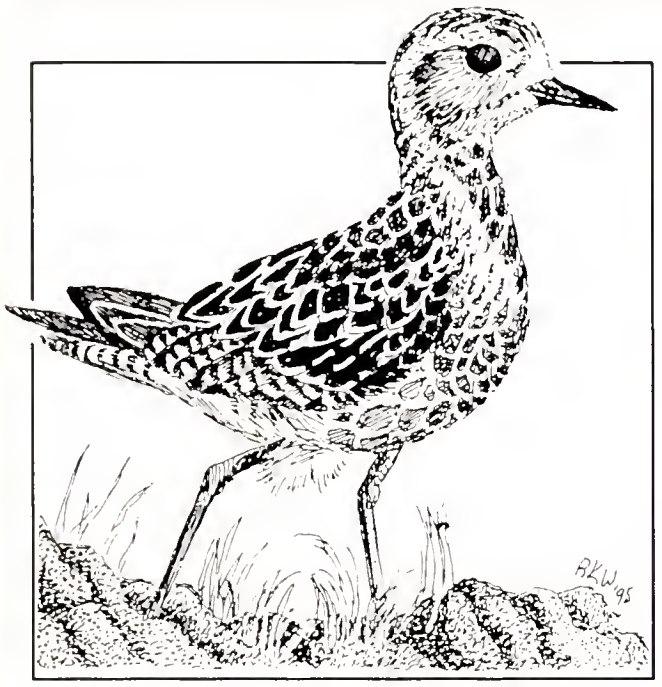
					Northern											*Central*					
SPECIES	**FREE**	**WTPN**	**PRIN**	**VANP**	**SCHA**	**SAVA**	**CL IA**	**PC IA**	**DA IA**	**MU IA**	**MERV**	**FGPR**	**CHAM**	**HMWD**	**BLOM**	**CLLK**	**DECA**	**CHIL**	**PEOR**	**CHAU**	**TOTALS**
Loggerhead Shrike								2* hc	1*	1						1* nc				1*	
European Starling	1947	658	672	486	755	26	1016	1298	3051	2757	1504	1682	7382	215	794	2293	6868	3119	5064	1723	
Yellow-rumped Warbler															2						
Northern Cardinal	54	75	17	107	113	9	121	168	717	232	215	251	420	54	154	167	73	182	224	214	
American Tree Sparrow	245	43	383	238	254	38	321	491	1464	732	535	300	346	3	332	562	85	572	263	457	
Chipping Sparrow									2*											1*[ED]	
Field Sparrow										2	8	1	1	3			4		2	2	
Vesper Sparrow													1*								
Savannah Sparrow		3*															4 hc				
Le Conte's Sparrow																	**1 nc, ps**				
Fox Sparrow				5						1		6			1		1		2	1	
Song Sparrow	15	4	10	10	4		20	25	101	70	68	90	128	8	11	25	64	77	88	200	
Lincoln's Sparrow															1*nc					1*	
Swamp Sparrow			4	5			2	16	50	23 hc	44	9	12		27	15	71	24	6	218	
White-throated Sparrow			5	1	cw		1	4	43	12	17	62	15		3	1	2	1	20	23	
White-crowned Sparrow			18	29	cw			3	6		cw	2	13	1			1	6	25	24	
Dark-eyed Junco	674	197	111	494	862	51	259	393	1116	757	670	603	472	77	129	279	278	401	559	465	
Lapland Longspur	203			14			1	15	15		197	cw	55			55					
Snow Bunting	2				cw			10	3		1		1								
Red-winged Blackbird			3	13			1	1	104	3	5	12	3		2	180	100 hc	194	1016	226	
Eastern Meadowlark							1		1-sp.	3	2	1	16	1		20	3	2			
Rusty Blackbird									4							7			1		
blackbird sp.												300									
Brewer's Blackbird										2*						3* nc					
Common Grackle		1	4		cw		4	9	19				3	405		8	2	13	30	4	
Brown-headed Cowbird	6	3	203	4			90	1	83	12	30		150	2	2	31	1	16		5	
Purple Finch	6			26	cw		13	3	34	10	1		11	47		10	5	9	3	12	
House Finch	160	152	35	252	125		85 hc	62	316 hc	104	370	262	132	21	62	45	27	28	118	26	
Red Crossbill		5																			6
Pine Siskin	3				cw				11	10			2		6	2				4	
American Goldfinch	67	127	16	411	119	6	82	95	224	166	339	241	59	11	11	327 hc	25	133	303	643	
Evening Grosbeak				1																	4
House Sparrow	1190	206	422	683	981	6	630	707	2968	2125	485	450	1694	482	335	670	751	1532	1433	510	
Eurasian Tree Sparrow				1																67	
Total Species	**39**	**40**	**56**	**66**	**38**	**26**	**71**	**62**	**89**	**67**	**62**	**55**	**68**	**43**	**62**	**88**	**78**	**68**	**52**	**85**	
Total Individuals	**6323**	**3264**	**7861**	**7903**	**4744**	**863**	**8321**	**5790**	**20255**	**10339**	**58756**	**14172**	**14575**	**3334**	**5930**	**24575**	**21305**	**15696**	**16014**	**268227**	

			Central											*South*								
Species	CRLK	SPFD	RUSH	MERE	WMER	BURL	QUIN	LINC	BIRD	KASK	RDLK	MARI	CROR	CYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	COLL	WRBV	PEMR	ELSA	TOTALS
Common Loon									1 + 1 sp		10 HC											15
Pied-billed Grebe		15		1					1		7		22	2	4	4		1	1			108
Horned Grebe		2							2 + 2 sp		11		1		3							36
American White Pelican							2*													1*		3
Double-crested Cormorant		1									846 HC				9	1	39			6		938
Great Blue Heron	46	7		26	24	46	16	7	7		128		93	40	36	114	80 hc	8	12	34	5	920
Mute Swan		cw																1				186
swan sp.															2 sp.							2
Greater White-fronted Goose											1			62 HC nc		59 hc	30 hc					153
Snow Goose						1					10000		533	6500	1050	5	10		95	15858 HC		34745
Ross' Goose											1			1*			1* nc					3
Canada Goose	1938	3500	230	243	480	1179	273	231	100	20	35000		61000	1000	25000	56000	69000	471	310	653	34	454949
Wood Duck	3	cw					3				3		13	30		195 hc	14		3	2		303
Green-winged Teal	60	cw		3	1						38		7	56	161	16	32					572
American Black Duck	44	18		19	1						381		76	48	125	78	31			37		2108
Mallard	14091	926		3839	395	75	333		244		10500		678	5559	13000	10000	750	1052	15	11517	34	319630
Northern Pintail	82	cw		4		1					29		6	36	150	2	15			50		2394
Blue-winged Teal													5*	2*		3				18 #? nd		31
Northern Shoveler	11	1									9		24	289	156	121	19	22		16		740
Gadwall	44	68hc		1	3	6					120		128	232	82	975 hc	21	16	5	31		3314
American Wigeon	11	cw			2						60		33	41	61	96	15			27		469
Canvasback	157	3		6		90					5		4	8	25	75	9	5		320		1211
Redhead	5	cw				1					5		19	3	9					28		259
Ring-necked Duck	30	cw			1	1			8		14		3	753	603	175	7	1		1030		2932
Greater Scaup	3														1							2994
Lesser Scaup	73	15		6		7			1+1 sp		18		34	56	51	3	12	5	81	19		3930
Oldsquaw		2																		1		297
Surf Scoter		3*nc											1-cw		1	1* nc						12
Common Goldeneye	11	500		2	2	12					363		76		1027			37	15	86	9	8432
Bufflehead		7				4			1		44		97		2			1		24		535
Hooded Merganser	2	60		1	1						218		223	5	14	34	2	8		4		758
Common Merganser	407	42		330	89	235					7		10		22			6		5		12105
Red-breasted Merganser		2				1			1		143		10		9			8		4		1123
merganser sp.									1													1
Ruddy Duck	24	1		1		3			12				5		13			3		45		160
duck sp.																			26			34
Black Vulture														69					33			102
Turkey Vulture						1		195	7		2		6	236 hc			8		169	1		629
Bald Eagle	46			107	92	96	86	2			5		6	3	3	27	18		2	161	7	1135
Northern Harrier	24	cw		6	11	7	1	8	17	1	23		3	73 HC	13	13	6	4	7	4	1	392
Sharp-shinned Hawk	5	1			2	4		1	3		7		2	6	1	2	2	5		3		119
Cooper's Hawk	5	cw		5	2	1		1	1	1	9 HC		1	5	2	2	5 hc	3	1	1		120
accitpiter sp.									3			3						1		1		13
Red-shouldered Hawk					2			1		1	6			17	1	12	7		3			59
Red-tailed Hawk	74+1Hrln	29	5	67	37	50	28	74	35	16	61	2	30	122	30	53	40	40	64	62	5	2747
Rough-legged Hawk	3	1	1	2	8	6	1	6	2					7	1			1	2	1		192
Golden Eagle																1						2
American Kestrel	16	23	3	15	19	25	30	33	35	12	68	6	16	111 HC	17	67 hc	39	49	28	20	7	1624
Peregrine Falcon	1*																					7
hawk sp.									8			9						4				36
Ring-necked Pheasant	17	cw			18	8					7				3			1		4		684
Wild Turkey	17		18	38					5		6			12		9			18	5		584
Northern Bobwhite	6	5	2	8	20		2	14	15		26		27	61	1			32	49	46		393
Sora					1*																	1

Illinois Christmas '94 — Central/South Counts — Table 2

Species	CRLK	SPFD	Central RUSH	MERE	WMER	BURL	QUIN	LINC	BIRD	KASK	RDLK	MARI	South CROR	CYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	COLL	WRBV	PEMR	ELSA	TOTALS
Sandhill Crane											1*		1									90
American Coot	72	16							254		512		275	117	448		5	50		980		4872
Killdeer				1		2		7	113		51		4	225 hc	2	89	253	6	10	7		818
Lesser Yellowlegs											**3*NC**											3
Greater Yellowlegs											**3*NC**											3
Least Sandpiper											**16 HC**											16
Common Snipe					3	2								1		1	10					41
American Woodcock									2					1								3
Bonaparte's Gull		100									220				37			30				1004
Ring-billed Gull	593	5600hc		947	146	991	186	1	3	6	1390		185	48	10000	20	115	2098	24	293	48	55773
Herring Gull	7	50		40	40	120	7				9		26		30			8		4		12446
Thayer's Gull						1																14
Glaucous Gull		cw-2nd yr																				4
Lesser Black-backed Gull		cw																				2
gull sp							111		1										18			1467
Rock Dove	105	146	4	59	165	136	140	109	18	1	67	8	9	47	50	29	18	515	10	22	57	18073
Mourning Dove	67	548hc	13	133	108	203	37	204	320	3	168	53	118	762	93	818	505	245	222	29		14059
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	11	1	4	6	1					8		3	12	2	5	3	1				242
Great Horned Owl	8	8			15		2	2	1	1	18		3	19	11	12	1	2	2	1		402
Barred Owl	2	1			5	5			3	1	12		5	26	3	9	6		1		1	165
Long-eared Owl					2						2											28
Short-eared Owl				2							4			**19 HC**	3							39
owl sp.									2													6
Belted Kingfisher	5	5	2	4	2	5	3	6	3		10		11	16	4	22	9	4	6	8	1	254
Red-headed Woodpecker	9	5	3	6	9	6	8	20	9	1	58	2	49	**738 HC**	1	209	149	5	35	19	1	1677
Red-bellied Woodpecker	49	61	15	45	45	34	36	60	28	2	59	2	69	201	14	178	131	31	57	112	29	2603
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	cw			1	6							4	11		21	11		3	3		80
Downy Woodpecker	59	90	17	30	62	31	30	62	29	3	58	1	48	179	24	185	97	25	48	97	12	3848
Hairy Woodpecker	13	2	2	8	15	2	4	1	10	1	27	1	5	**109 HC**	2	59	20	1	11	18	1	815
Northern Flicker	28	29	2	21	13	12	6	20	9		52	2	55	**291 HC**	7	150	147	17	85	34	14	1447
Pileated Woodpecker	12	9		3	8	1	4	6			1		13	84	2	95	24	5	22	22		373
woodpecker sp.									5													8
Eastern Phoebe								1						1		1						3
Horned Lark	42	102		36	33	18	15	56	422		55			235	247	101	170	24	5	28		5840
Blue Jay	81	196	52	126	73	108	70	95	155	26	254	30	256	641	90	343	424	50	447	96	45	8254
American Crow	508	620	98	4575	2655	513	209	401	346	11	375	16	196	153	162	160	48	297	233	210	78	96939
Fish Crow														1 nc								1
Black-capped Chickadee	80	143	74	73	195	308	101		6 + 2 sp.	5		15						47		231	62	9725
Carolina Chickadee								115	84		218		171	435	114	433	182	22	87			2237
Tufted Titmouse	60	79	53	68	33	40	56	130	81	20	143	3	83	315	57	312	180	14	82	211	63	3368
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	cw			2	2					1		2	7		2						122
White-breasted Nuthatch	74	38	24	30	84	37	46	44	28	3	34		32	147	5	178	67	6	36	103	32	3090
Brown Creeper	8	13		5	6	13	1	4	2		18		5	19	2	20	15	1	12	5	4	880
Carolina Wren	60	46	1	18	3	9	15	17	2	2	114		55	254	18	250	114	15	31	59	16	1298
House Wren																	1					1
Winter Wren	2	3				1	1				6		4	17	1	34	23			1		126
Golden-crowned Kinglet	10	cw		15	2	12		1	1		116		30	166	9	110	8		31	8	1	662
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1										5		8	29		32	18		1		1	104
Eastern Bluebird	5		10	12	4	10		42	33	16	94	4	68	170	7	**199 HC**	159 hc	5	80	12	1	1016
Hermit Thrush											2		2	3		9	9			1		34
American Robin	2	33		1	2	3		9	4		64		58	37	5	9	6	7	15	10	5	3410
Gray Catbird																						4
Northern Mockingbird	1	10		5			1	3	16	4	26	5	21	85	1	14	33	26	20	6	12	306
Brown Thrasher									2		1			4		4	13	1	1	1		30

			Central											*South*								
Species	**CRLK**	**SPFD**	**RUSH**	**MERE**	**WMER**	**BURL**	**QUIN**	**LINC**	**BIRD**	**KASK**	**RDLK**	**MARI**	**CROR**	**CYCR**	**CALK**	**UNION**	**HSLK**	**COLL**	**WRBV**	**PEMR**	**ELSA**	**TOTALS**
American Pipit														1*			1					3
Cedar Waxwing	6	35			34	19			5		25		25	39		2		11	1	41	13	2588
Loggerhead Shrike	1				1*				7		8	2 sp.	3	26	9	4	10		10			85
European Starling	8328	1667	650	1412	463	1045	876	1960	1715	1087	14000	405	923	7515	1437	700	1300	2976	217	4433	126	166354
Orange-crowned Warbler		**cw***												**1***								1
[Northern Parula]														**[1**cw]**								[1-cw]
Yellow-rumped Warbler		1		1				1	4				8	30		178	75		4			396
Pine Warbler											1* nc		5*HC									6
Common Yellowthroat																2*	2* hc					4
warbler sp.									1													1
Northern Cardinal	134	271	53	184	176	208	135	243	292	19	495	19	272	692	242	494	512	138	404	276	223	12488
Indigo Bunting																	2*					2
Rufous-sided Towhee									1		21		16	23		5	26	1	8			105
American Tree Sparrow	330	214	5	231	1044	246	155	75	16		60		9	258	131	63	14	29	29	42		18529
Chipping Sparrow																1*						4
Field Sparrow	2	4	12	6	1		2	1	5		26		27	172	3	26	108		2	5		440
Vesper Sparrow					1*												1*					3
Savannah Sparrow											2		1	46	6	20 hc	41	7				132
Le Conte's Sparrow											1			23		1	3					29
Fox Sparrow	8	6		13	1				7		7		1	50		38	96	2	2	33		287
Song Sparrow	382	84	1	127	110	28	79	49	11		169		29	600	83	**894 HC**	707	33	62	131	4	5351
Lincoln's Sparrow																2*	1*			1*		8
Swamp Sparrow	318	13		12	13	5	34		1		65		8	374	47	**654 HC**	139	4	10	70		2446
White-throated Sparrow	103	33		23	66 hc	11	44	4	12	5	254		56	269	69	696	896	19	84	145	6	3165
White-crowned Sparrow	79	6	3	7	1		25	19	5		22		6	194	23	73	77	20	26	127		898
Harris' Sparrow					1*																	1
Dark-eyed Junco	375	289	122	299	544	443	224	361	98	8	243	14	246	358	117	368	396	90	139	324	175	25042
Lapland Longspur					2	12			2		31			18	66	9	92					1001
Snow Bunting					24																	624
Red-winged Blackbird	148	300		49	150	10			41		9600	2	7077	17380	5527	700	10000	1948		2219		69276
Eastern Meadowlark				13			2	28	83	22	79	45	19	346	17	117	77	5	102			1025
meadowlark sp									1													2
Rusty Blackbird	30	3	22								274		10	43	102	21	47			8		636
blackbird sp.									4	7390			1000000					10250	111			1018506
Common Grackle	54	229	25	2	3	1		21	264	45	36,500	50	9920	83217	3620	21	9000	123	6051	749		153229
Brown-headed Cowbird	16	1			2	2		23	86		334	150	22	1615	257	133	1000	15	51	205		6499
Purple Finch	3		8		3	3	cw	1		1			15	15		7	3		2	2		291
House Finch	7	88	34	24	7	48	262	103	79		27		24	221	598	**708 HC**	263 hc	43	136	94	14	9161
Pine Siskin				3		3																61
American Goldfinch	394	95	158	407	87	105	176	38	62	5	60	5	70	156	359	373	154	43	58	128	103	9439
Evening Grosbeak																						4
House Sparrow	462	879	271	536	742	460	787	916	1225	53	381	9	51	836	998	235	177	326	130	772	145	44358
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	242	87	28	333	31 hc	57	40											20		111	24	1041
Total species	**82**	**71**	**36**	**67**	**75**	**73**	**47**	**53**	**70**	**33**	**102**	**26**	**90**	**98**	**87**	**92**	**90**	**73**	**69**	**86**	**39**	
Total individuals	**30648**	**17506**	**2022**	**14679**	**8460**	**7203**	**4705**	**5832**	**6540**	**8789**	**125141**	**863**	**1083908**	**135,588**	**66850**	**78801**	**98407**	**21446**	**10213**	**42672**	**1419**	



Golden Plover drawing by Brian K. Willis.

Shorebirds at O'Hare Post Office Ponds

by Richard Biss

While mailing an urgent letter for my wife, Mary, on 17 May 1993 at the 24-hour O'Hare Post Office, I discovered a new shorebird location which I have called the O'Hare Post Office Ponds for obvious reasons. I heard a Semipalmated Plover and saw all the habitat there, but unfortunately it was midnight and I didn't have my binoculars, so I was unable to bird there until the next morning.

When I returned, I saw 114 shorebirds of nine species including one Wilson's Phalarope, 50 Least Sandpipers, 20 Semipalmated Plovers, and 15 Dunlins. An unusual interior record of the Sanderling was observed there at 6:30 a.m. on 28 May 1993. The species is a common spring and fall migrant along Lake Michigan and an occasional migrant elsewhere in the state (Bohlen 1989).

High counts for 1993 included 14 shorebird species on 12 Sept. and 170 shorebird individuals on 10 July. From May through October 1993, I saw 21 species of shorebirds at the O'Hare ponds.

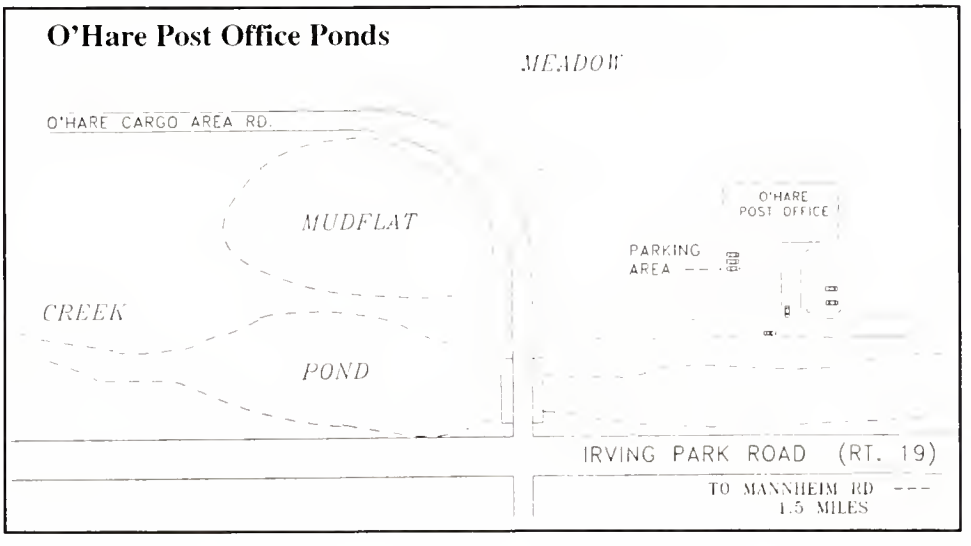
In 1994, I observed three additional shorebird species, American Woodcock (25 April, 1 individual), Willet (25 April, 1 individual), and Western Sandpiper (7, 11, and 14 Sept., 1 individual each day) bringing the total to 24 (see table).

I saw a total of 83 species there in 1993 and 1994. Species that successfully nested in 1993 include Canada Goose (10 young), Mallard (50 young), Killdeer (8 young), Spotted Sandpiper (6 young), Barn Swallow, and Horned Lark (4 young and 4 adults in July).

The area collects runoff water from O'Hare Airport, so water levels can fluctuate tremendously from day to day. On many occasions, the ponds were almost completely dried out on one day, and totally flooded the next day. One inch of rain easily produces a foot of water in this area. I don't know what the City of Chicago plans to do with these ponds. I saw surveyors there much of 1992. Hopefully this area will not be destroyed in the near future, considering how few shorebird locations there are in Chicagoland.

Birders can park next to the post office or along O'Hare Cargo Road (see accompanying map). The ponds may also be viewed from Irving Park Road, but the rapidly moving traffic makes observations difficult.

With the ongoing loss of so much shorebird habitat, I never considered it possible to find an area like this just eight minutes from my doorsetp. It just shows how one can be blessed for doing an errand of mercy.



Literature Cited

Bohlen, H.D. 1989. The Birds of Illinois. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, IN.

Biss,
9916 Schiller Blvd.,
Franklin Park, IL 60131

O'Hare Ponds Shorebird List

Shorebirds seen between 1993 and 1994 at O'Hare Ponds during the months of April, May, June, July, August, September, and October include Black-bellied Plover, Golden Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dunlin, Stilt Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowticher, Long-billed Dowitcher, Common Snipe, Woodcock, and Wilson's Phalarope.

SHOREBIRDS AT O'HARE PONDS 1993

	May											June				
	18 1pm	19 10am	21 6pm	22 6pm rain	23 7am rain	24 6am,6pm	25 1pm	25 12pm	28 6:30am	29 7pm	31 10am	4 7:30pm rain	6 6:45am	7 6:45pm flooded	9 12pm	12 7pm
Black-bellied Plover																
Golden Plover																
Semi-palmated Plover	20	15	15	8	7	14	10	12	23	2	3	7	10	1		
Killdeer	10	10	15	10	8	10	14	15	10	15	8	2	27	3	4	9
Greater Yellowlegs																
Lesser Yellowlegs	3	4	4	1		2	2									
Solitary Sandpiper					3											
Spotted Sandpiper	6	8	10	10	6	8	6	4	7	10	5	2	9	2		3
Ruddy Turnstone	2						2									
Sanderling								1	1							
Semipalmated Sandp	8	5	18	20	20	59	78	55	55	35	10	15	5	8		
Least Sandpiper	50	30	55	10	15	10	32	17	7	3						
White-rumped Sandp			1			2	2	2								
Baird's Sandpiper																
Pectoral Sandpiper																
Dunlin	16	12	12				3	2		1						
Stilt Sandpiper																
Short-billed Dowitcher																
Long-billed Dowitcher																
Common Snipe																
Wilson's Phalarope	1	1														
Total Shorebird species	9	8	8	6	5	7	9	8	6	6	4	4	4	4	1	2
Total # Shorebirds	114	86	130	69	68	105	150	118	114	66	26	25	51	14	4	12

1993 *Continued*

	23 10am	25 6pm	26 7pm	27 2pm	28 7pm	29 12pm	30 3pm flooded	July 2 7pm	5 11am	7 12pm	9 11:30am	10 6pm	11 6am	12 6:30pm	13 12:30pm	14 6:30am
Black-bellied Plover																
Golden Plover																
Semi-palmated Plover																
Killdeer	28	20	61	35	15	20	3	15	25	40	30	40	25	35	35	39
Greater Yellowlegs					1	1	1		1			2	1	3	3	1
Lesser Yellowlegs		1	3		1	4		4	1	5	2	8	8	13	5	8
Solitary Sandpiper			1	2						3		1	3	3	1	2
Spotted Sandpiper	7	12	16	14	6	8		10	10	10	10	13	13	15	11	8
Ruddy Turnstone																
Sanderling										1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Semipalmated Sandp																
Least Sandpiper	1	2	3	3	4	3		3	3	37	52	87	59	93	76	83
White-rumped Sandp																
Baird's Sandpiper																
Pectoral Sandpiper									1		1	1	2	1		
Dunlin																
Stilt Sandpiper																
Short-billed Dowitcher											1	5	6	7	8	5
Long-billed Dowitcher																
Common Snipe																
Wilson's Phalarope																
Total Shorebird species	3	4	5	4	5	5	2	4	5	6	7	9	9	9	8	8
Total # Shorebirds	36	36	84	64	27	37	4	32	41	96	97	170	118	171	140	147

1993 *Continued*

	16 6:30pm	17 E.Walters	18 2pm flooded	19 7pm	21 10am	23 6pm	24 7pm	26 8pm	28 4pm	30 6pm	August 3 12pm	6 6pm flooded	9 6pm	August 11 10am	13 7pm
Black-bellied Plover															
Golden Plover															
Semi-palmated Plover														61	30
Killdeer	18	21	10	16	8	17	10	20	36	62	27	31	15	2	1
Greater Yellowlegs	1	1	2	6	3	6	5	8	2	2	1	1	2	6	3
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	3	2	4	4	7	18	9	31	33	7	3			
Solitary Sandpiper	1	1		1			1	1	1	2	1	1	1		1
Spotted Sandpiper	7	8	1	4	3	4	5	11	5	5	3	4	2		
Ruddy Turnstone															
Sanderling															5
Semipalmated Sandp	1		2			3	1	1	10	21	9	5			4
Least Sandpiper	78	49	60			3	4	3	5	12	16	5	2		
White-rumped Sandp															
Baird's Sandpiper														1	1
Pectoral Sandpiper			1					1	6	5	2	1			
Dunlin															
Stilt Sandpiper									1						
Short-billed Dowitcher	1			2	1	2	1		1		1				
Long-billed Dowitcher															
Common Snipe															
Wilson's Phalarope															
Total Shorebird species	8	6	7	6	6	7	8	8	10	8	8	8	5	4	7
Total # Shorebirds	108	83	68	32	19	42	46	64	98	132	67	63	22	60	46

SHOREBIRDS AT O'HARE PONDS 1993 *Continued*

	Sept										Oct				
	16 6pm	29 6pm	1 1pm	3 6pm	7 1pm	11 6pm	12 8am	13 6pm	17 6pm	24 6pm	27 6pm flooded	1 5:45pm	5 10am	8 6pm	11 6pm	13 9am
Black-bellied Plover						1	1	1								
Golden Plover						1	1									
Semi-palmated Plover						1	2	2	1	2			2			
Killdeer	8	1	1	4	20	26	53	30	30	20		10	16	20	25	15
Greater Yellowlegs	2	6	3	5	2	11	3			1	1		2			
Lesser Yellowlegs	13		1	8	1	3	1	1		2						
Solitary Sandpiper					1	1	2			1						
Spotted Sandpiper																
Ruddy Turnstone																
Sanderling																
Semipalmated Sandp		1	6	6	10	3	4	3								
Least Sandpiper		5	12	2		4	5	2	1	4			1			
White-rumped Sandp							1	1								
Baird's Sandpiper						1	1	1								
Pectoral Sandpiper			6		6	24	15	16		1			4	7	3	2
Dunlin										1			2	6	20	52
Stilt Sandpiper						3	3	3								
Short-billed Dowitcher																
Long-billed Dowitcher							1	1								
Common Snipe														2	1	1
Wilson's Phalarope																
Total Shorebird species	3	4	6	5	6	12	14	11	3	8	1	1	6	4	4	4
Total # Shorebirds	23	13	29	25	40	78	93	61	32	32	1	10	27	35	49	70

1993 *Continued*

	15 5:30pm	20 3pm rain	24 1pm	27 10am	31 9am
Black-bellied Plover					
Golden Plover					
Semi-palmated Plover					
Killdeer	15	2			
Greater Yellowlegs		6			
Lesser Yellowlegs					
Solitary Sandpiper					
Spotted Sandpiper					
Ruddy Turnstone					
Sanderling					
Semipalmated Sandp					
Least Sandpiper					
White-rumped Sandp					
Baird's Sandpiper					
Pectoral Sandpiper					
Dunlin	30				
Stilt Sandpiper					
Short-billed Dowitcher					
Long-billed Dowitcher					
Common Snipe	2				
Wilson's Phalarope					
Total Shorebird species	3	2	0	0	0
Total # Shorebirds	47	8	0	0	0

SHOREBIRDS AT O'HARE PONDS 1994

	April 10 6:00 PM	13 2:00 PM	15 6:00 PM	17 10:00 AM	20 3:00 PM	23 6:00 PM	24 7AM,3PM
Black-bellied Plover							
Golden Plover							
Semi-palmated Plover							
Killdeer	4		1	1	4	11	14
Willet							
Greater Yellowlegs							
Lesser Yellowlegs					1	1	1
Solitary Sandpiper							2
Spotted Sandpiper							
Ruddy Turnstone							
Sanderling							
Semipalmated Sandp							
Western Sandpiper							
Least Sandpiper							
White-rumped Sandp							
Baird's Sandpiper							
Pectoral Sandpiper						40	78
Dunlin							
Stilt Sandpiper							
Short-billed Dowitcher							
Long-billed Dowitcher							
Common Snipe	7				6	3	6
Woodcock							
Wilson's Phalarope							
Total Shorebird species	2	0	1	1	3	4	5
Total # Shorebirds	11	0	1	1	11	55	101

1994 *Continued*

	25 6:00 PM	26 9:00 AM	27 3:00 PM	30 6:30 PM	May 2 6:00 PM	4 11:00 AM	7 6AM,6PM	9 6:00 PM	Mey 10	11 12:00 PM	13 6:00 PM	14 7:00 AM	15 8:00 AM
Black-bellied Plover								1					
Golden Plover							4	3	2	16	24	24	15
Semi-palmated Plover													
Killdeer	10	6	10		8	12	11	18	12	20	33	23	13
Willet								1					
Greater Yellowlegs	1												
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	1	7		2	6	11	14	19	10	1	1	
Solitary Sandpiper	1	3	4	3	6	3	6	21	18	6	1		
Spotted Sandpiper	1	2	6		3	2	9	10	20	12	16	13	10
Ruddy Turnstone													
Sanderling												1	8
Semipalmated Sandp													
Western Sandpiper													
Least Sandpiper	3						13	151	123	137	122	63	21
White-rumped Sandp								1					
Baird's Sandpiper													
Pectoral Sandpiper	15	10	23		1		1	2	2	9	1	2	1
Dunlin					1			3	2	2	2		5
Stilt Sandpiper													
Short-billed Dowitcher									5				15
Long-billed Dowitcher													
Common Snipe	4	5	1		1	1	1		1	1			
Woodcock	1												
Wilson's Phalarope											1		
Total Shorebird species	9	6	6	1	7	5	8	11	10	9	9	7	8
Total # Shorebirds	37	27	51	3	22	24	56	225	204	213	201	127	88

1994 *Continued*

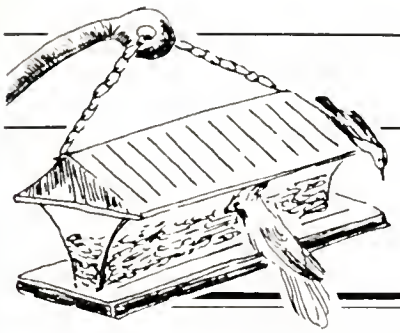
	May								June		July		
	15 6:00 PM	17 10:00 AM	18 11:00 AM	24 8:00 AM	25 4:00 PM	27 5:00 PM	28 7:00 PM	30 8:00 AM	18 5:00 AM	28 8:00 AM	1 7:00 PM	2 5:00 PM	4 1:00 PM
Black-bellied Plover													
Golden Plover													
Semi-palmated Plover	24	5	4										
Killdeer	18	25	28	12	8	10	15	12	10	20	85	67	61
Willet													
Greater Yellowlegs										1	3		
Lesser Yellowlegs										1	17	8	6
Solitary Sandpiper				1		1					3		
Spotted Sandpiper	18	17	20	10	4	11	12	10	8	4	12	17	14
Ruddy Turnstone													
Sanderling													
Semipalmated Sandp	1			5		5	4	2					
Western Sandpiper													
Least Sandpiper	18	12	1	1	3	1	1				8	38	28
White-rumped Sandp													
Baird's Sandpiper													.
Pectoral Sandpiper						1							
Dunlin	7	11	11	1									
Stilt Sandpiper													
Short-billed Dowitcher	2												
Long-billed Dowitcher													
Common Snipe													
Woodcock													
Wilson's Phalarope													
Total Shorebird species	7	5	5	6	3	6	4	3	2	4	6	4	4
Total # Shorebirds	91	70	64	30	15	29	32	24	18	25	128	131	109

1994 *Continued*

	5 8:00 AM	8 6:30 PM	9 3:00 PM	13 2:00 PM	15 6:00 PM	16 5:00 PM	18 6:00 PM	20 11:00 AM	23 5:00 PM	27 8:00 AM	Aug 3 10:00 AM	9 9:00 AM	12 7:00 PM	13 6:00 PM
Black-bellied Plover														
Golden Plover														
Semi-palmated Plover	22	8	7	29	41	18	21	48	8	8	5	14		
Killdeer														
Willet		1	1	1		3		1	3		5	2	3	
Greater Yellowlegs	3	2	12	8	9	8			3	2	2			
Lesser Yellowlegs					1	1	1							
Solitary Sandpiper	6	2	1	4	7	5	2		1	1				
Spotted Sandpiper														
Ruddy Turnstone														
Sanderling				19	14	27	5	1						
Semipalmated Sandp														
Western Sandpiper	25	25	20	84	75	59	23	5	3	1				
Least Sandpiper														
White-rumped Sandp								.						
Baird's Sandpiper				3	1	2		1		1				
Pectoral Sandpiper														
Dunlin														
Stilt Sandpiper				1										
Short-billed Dowitcher				2		4								
Long-billed Dowitcher														
Common Snipe														
Woodcock														
Wilson's Phalarope														
Total Shorebird species	4	5	5	8	7	9	5	5	5	5	3	2	1	0
Total # Shorebirds	55	38	41	152	148	138	52	57	18	13	12	16	3	0

1994 *Continued*

	17 2:00 PM	27 6:30 PM	28 7:00 AM	30 10:00 AM	31 5:00 PM	Sept 7 11:00 AM	11 3:00 PM	14 9:00 AM	18 10:00 AM	27 9:00 AM	Oct 5 11:00 AM	12 11:00 AM	28 12:00 PM
Black-bellied Plover													
Golden Plover													
Semi-palmated Plover		5	9	2			1	2					
Killdeer	20	14	39	9		12	29	85	42		1	4	9
Willet													
Greater Yellowlegs	2	2		1	3	1	1	3					
Lesser Yellowlegs	9	25	3			1		2					
Solitary Sandpiper			1	1									
Spotted Sandpiper													
Ruddy Turnstone													
Sanderling													
Semipalmated Sandp	7	59	40	5		5	4	5	3				
Western Sandpiper						1	1	1					
Least Sandpiper		15	15	11			7	7	2				
White-rumped Sandp													
Baird's Sandpiper			8										
Pectoral Sandpiper	2	5	47			5		1					
Dunlin							2	1					
Stilt Sandpiper			3										
Short-billed Dowitcher	1	3	8										
Long-billed Dowitcher													
Common Snipe													
Woodcock													
Wilson's Phalarope													
Total Shorebird species	6	8	10	5	1	5	7	9	3	0	1	1	1
Total # Shorebirds	41	139	174	29	3	25	45	107	47	0	1	4	9



Ovenbird chooses indoor atrium for winter feeding station

by Christine Williamson

January 1995, I was fairly startled to find a message from Richard Biss on my answering machine. Usually—it's the other way around. I ramble on about birds I've seen that he might or might not want to put on the Chicago Audubon Society's Rare Bird Alert. Biss only calls me if I've made a big mistake - like reporting a Brewer's Sparrow when I meant to say Brewer's Blackbird.

Biss' message said there was an Ovenbird *(Seiurus aurocappilus)* in the atrium at a Hyatt Hotel in Chicago. Biss had had intermittent reports of a bird stalking around under the tables in the atrium since November 1994. I work downtown and was a logical choice to check out this wintering warbler. Biss asked if I would go on location to check out the bird for the CAS and for *Meadowlark*.

The only binoculars I could find in the bottom of a desk drawer were a badly out-of-whack pair of Tascos, but I thought I'd probably at least be able to spot the bird. How many birds could there be in the Hyatt at 150 E. Wacker?

The Hyatt is split into two sections. I entered the west tower lobby and poked around in all the indoor planters looking for a tiny warbler. It was when I was on my knees peering at planter level through a bed of hostas that the first hotel staffer approached me.

"Have you lost something?"

"Uhmm... no. Not exactly. I'm looking for a bird," I replied.

"We don't have any birds in here."

"Well, I know you usually don't. But this winter, you do. It's an Ovenbird, a neotropical migrant. It should be in Central America right now, but somehow, it got trapped in the atrium and is supposed to be in here, poking around some bar tables."

The man looked relieved. "Oh, this isn't the atrium. That's over the walkway there in the east tower. If there was a bird in here, in the west tower, I'd know about it. Wouldn't I?"

I quickly moved away before he called security to escort me out as yet another loony in off the street. There was indeed a big, glassed atrium ahead of me and yes, there was a bar area with a player piano and a fountain and a patio restaurant.

A quick glance at the spider plants and grasses planted under ficus trees confirmed that a bird had been here. A tiny bird, judging by the size of the spoor, but he seemed to be getting enough food by the number of white-wash spots. It took me a little while, but I found the Ovenbird firmly planted in a ficus right above the player piano. He was hunkered down in shade and looked rather oily, with spiky head feathers.

Geoff Williamson and I returned to the Hyatt atrium at the end of January, camera in hand, to record the spa like winter quarters of this warbler. It took much longer to locate the Ovenbird this time. The bird was well hidden, deep in a ficus tree and immobile. Our watching, even at a distance, was definitely noticed by the bird, who was disturbed enough after a few minutes to fly across the atrium to the patio restaurant. In flight and in the bright winter sunshine flooding this glasshouse, the Ovenbird appeared a little drab, but healthy.

We tried to unobtrusively photograph the bird in the open roofed patios restaurant from over the top of the planter screens surrounding it. Eventually, Geoff just entered the patio and began snapping the bird. Several waitresses stopped by to tell us about their "pet" bird. The restaurant manager apparently kept tabs on the bird's movements all day. A diner dropped a hunk of whole wheat roll on the floor for the bird.

I smiled at the idea of these naive diners. This bird was an insectivore, not a pigeon. He wouldn't come to bread. I was sure he was staying alive by eating roaches, spiders, ants, and planter pest bugs. And maybe fruit flies. Within 30 seconds, however, the Ovenbird was attacking the chunk of bread half his size with vigor. The tiny bill couldn't crack the crust, but managed well on the soft insides of the bread.

Someone more official from the hotel eventually turned up and took down all my details. I realized halfway through the recitation of my purpose in trespassing in this atrium and in writing down my phone number, that the manager might use this information when he later filed charges against me. He didn't kick us out, but I wasn't so sure he wouldn't kill the bird in the interests of public health.

We considered coming back in April to attempt to release the bird outside for spring migration. I suggested that we could do it early in the morning so we could set up the mist nets before any hotel guests were up and about. I could see "Publicity Stunt" and "Ten-O-Clock News coverage" shining from his eyes. He didn't call security.

As of March 1995, the Ovenbird was still domiciled at the Hyatt. It had a fountain to bathe in and drink from and probably a lot of roaches to eat, if my office a few blocks away is anything to judge from. It had friendly hotel staff and guests to feed him. And it had me secreting hunks of suet block and mealy worms inside the planters.

When I went to relocate the Ovenbird in late spring however it was nowhere to be found. I prefer to think it quietly died amid the flowerbeds or that it escaped through a window and found its way to more suitable habitat.

Williamson,
4016 Clarendon,
Chicago, IL 60613

Barrow's Goldeneye at Winthrop Harbor, Lake County

On 31 January 1995 Paul Sweet discovered an adult male Barrow's Goldeneye *(Bucephala islandica)* at Winthrop Harbor, Lake County. Sweet observed the bird on Lake Michigan outside and south of the NorthPoint Marina harbor entrance near the rocky breakwaters. On 4 February Bob Erickson and Sherman Suter observed the bird inside the harbor mouth. The next day the goldeneye could not be relocated in Winthrop Harbor but Rick Siebert discovered the bird in Pleasant Prairie, Kenosha County, Wisconsin. Siebert observed the bird in a large goldeneye flock.

On 6 February I found the bird inside the NorthPoint Marina jetty with a dozen or more Common Goldeneyes *(B. clangula)*. I noted its smaller bill than the Common Goldeneyes, the prominent loral white crescent to and above the eye, the steep forehead, and the blackish to maroonish-purple head with a very sloped rear crown. I also noted the black back which came closer to the waterline than the other goldeneyes. The bird also had six white "squares" on each side of the back with two white oblong rectangles at the lower part of the black feathering closest to the white flanks. On 10 February, Scott Hickman and I relocated this bird at 106th Street and 1st Ave. in Pleasant Prairie just offshore Lake Michigan. To my knowledge Donald Dann of Highland Park was the last person to observe the bird early on 11 February at Pleasant Prairie.

Mlodinow (1984) listed only 11 dates (since 1955) for this rare winter visitor in the Chicago area. Since Mlodinow's cut-off date of 1982 for bird records included in his publication there have been several records of immatures and female Barrow's Goldeneyes which are very difficult to separate from Common Goldeneyes. This record is to my knowledge the first verifiable report of an adult male since 1978 in the Chicago area although there is a reliable observation of an adult male Barrow's Goldeneye at Waukegan's new south harbor mouth (Lake County) on 12 February 1992 (R. Gogh pers. comm.).

Literature Cited

Mlodinow, S. 1984 Chicago area birds. Chicago Review Press. Chicago, IL

David B. Johnson,
504 Crown Point Drive, Buffalos Grove, IL 60089

American Coot Migration in Sangamon County

I've never seen a flock of American Coots *(Fulica americana)* migrating and I don't suppose anyone else has either, since they are nocturnal migrants. They may occasionally fly short distances in daylight when chased by a motorboat, bearing down on the flock. But ordinarily, coots are seldom seen flying.

I usually watch Lake Springfield in the evening because most ducks, coots, grebes, loons, and gulls move toward the center of the lake for roosting, making them easier to count. They probably do this for protection from predators.

Several hundred coots were on Lake Springfield in Sangamon County, Illinois, around Marine Point on 2 April 1995. Many of the coots were moving out from the edge of the lake toward the center. It was past sundown, but there was an afterglow, providing enough light to see well. Some of the first stars had begun to appear and there was a sliver of moon. A light, southerly wind was blowing and it was clear, without cloud cover.

I saw a coot paddle along and fly into the air. I expected it to land again, but it climbed higher into the sky. I've never seen a coot flying that high before. I watched it flutter in a slow curve. It started toward the south into the wind, then arched around, in slow, upspiraling circles. Finally, it was several hundred feet in the air, but still visible. It then straightened its course and flew north, out of sight.

I looked back to where the coot had started its flight and several more coots were performing the spiral-up routine. I watched several fly north. One or two dropped back to the water, but now, the sky over the lake was full of coots beginning nocturnal migration.

What amazed me was that the effort was an individual thing. It was not done as a flock. Most coots are observed sitting on the water in flocks during migration. However, what I observed was coots leaving individually, though many were in the air at once. I did not hear any vocalizations which would have kept the coots in contact. I speculate that once they reach a certain elevation, they may form a flock. I watched until about 8 p.m. The coots were still departing, but I could just barely discern them in the darkening sky.

H. David Bohlen,
Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL 62706

Gyrfalcon at Clinton Lake, De Witt County

The morning of 25 February 1995, I was observing the large collection of ducks and gulls gathered on the ice near the power station at Clinton Lake, De Witt County. This has always been a good spot to observe early migrant ducks and the rarer gulls. As usual, the adult Great Blacked-backed Gull that had been present since January was standing out on the ice.

At about 8:30 a.m., all of the ducks and gulls, including the Great Black-backed Gull, flushed as one. This usually meant that an eagle was flying overhead. However, I could not see any raptors and an eagle would have been very visible. At that point, I speculated about the possibility of a fast-moving Peregrine Falcon *(Falco peregrinus)*.

Gyrfalcon drawing by Brian K. Willis.

Sure enough, a few minutes later, a large falcon came by. But this was no peregrine! I was immediately impressed by its size - larger than any of the gulls, except the great black-backed. Its size, heavy build, very broad-based, two-toned wings, and slight facial pattern identified this bird as a Gyrfalcon *(F. rusticolus)*. The overall gray-brown color indicated that it was an immature. As I watched, it made amazingly rapid progress with seemingly little effort as it flew eastward past the power plant.

I notified the central Illinois birding community even though the bird appeared to be on the move. I thought perhaps it would at least be found somewhere else near Clinton Lake. While no one was able to find it the next day, Myrna Deaton discovered it on 4 March at the east end of the lake, near a major concentration of ducks, geese, and gulls.

On 5 March, Dick Sandburg, Kevin Richmond, and I observed the Gyrfalcon harassing a Great Horned Owl. The Gyrfalcon then flew out over the lake and returned to a perch. It offered us an opportunity to observe it for about 15 minutes at close range (less than 50 yards) through telescopes as it rested and preened before resuming its patrol of the lake.

My last view of the Gyrfalcon as I headed toward Farmer City half an hour later was of it chasing a flock of Canada Geese across a field. Although it forced the geese to the ground, it showed no further interest, having proved its dominance.

Robert T. Chapel,
306 1/2 W. California, Urbana, Ill. 61801

Courtship in Subadult Bald Eagles in Mason County

Aerial courtship displays sometimes spectacular, are well known in the Bald Eagle *(Halieaeetus leucocephalus)*, especially in late winter or early spring when migrating or at feeding areas (e.g., De Vore 1993, Ehrlich, Dobkin and Wheye 1988, Stokes and Stokes 1989). Aerial displays involving 20 to 30 individuals, predominantly subadults, were common in the central Illinois River valley in January and February 1995. Eagles in subadult plumage were numerous throughout winter in this area (Chautauqua NWR Christmas count had 41 immatures and 37 adults). Here I report an instance of courting behavior involving eagles in subadult plumage that was initiated on the ground in a harvested cornfield.

On 1 February 1995 at 9:45 a.m. while traveling west on a blacktop road near the entrance to the Forbes

Biological Station (Chautauqua NWR, Mason County), I noted four Bald Eagles in a conservation till cornfield on the south side of the road. One bird flew east as I stopped my pickup truck and reached for my field glasses. A subadult and a bird in full adult plumage were sitting about 5 meters apart on slightly elevated ground. The third eagle, another subadult, was on the ground about 30 meters east of the others. There was no snow cover on the ground, littered with corn stalks.

Using Cohen (1993) criteria, the subadults appeared to be third-year birds. Both had mottled bellies but not the dirty white head and tail and dull yellow beak of the classic fourth-year subadult. As I watched, the subadult on the ground scratched vigorously in the debris until it had gathered a small pile of leaves, all the while observed by the other adult. The subadult with the leaf load then flew low and parallel with the ground directly in front of and past the other birds rising to 15 to 20 meters above ground. At 30 to 40 meters elevation, both subadult birds rolled but did not appear to touch talons, though the bird initiating the behavior apparently unlocked one of its talons, as part of its leaf load was lost. Then, clutching the remaining load, it turned sharply north flying across the road followed closely by the second subadult. The two disappeared at the wooded area along Quiver Creek which flows toward Lake Chautauqua, 1 kilometer north of my observation point. Two minutes later the adult flew in a direction opposite the courting birds.

Having discovered an eagle nest several kilometers north on the refuge during the autumn of 1994, it was tempting to think these subadults might choose to nest in the area. Throughout February, adults were on the nest occasionally rearranging sticks, but only once did I observe a subadult at the nest site. On 18 March 1995, Barbara Frase observed an adult and an immature rearranging sticks at the nest. Shortly thereafter, high winds destroyed the nest, which was located in a cottonwood tree killed previously by flooding. It is most likely that the subadults I saw courting in February were practicing before moving north to contemporary eagle nesting habitat.

Literature Cited

Cohen Hal. 1993. Adult and Immature Bald Eagles. Meadowlark 2:92.

De Vore, Sheryl. 1993. The Bald Eagle in Illinois. Meadowlark 2:82.

Ehrlich, Paul, David Dobkin, and Darryl Wheye. 1988. The Birder's Handbook: A Field Guide to the Natural History of North American Birds. Simon and Schuster. New York.

Stokes, Donald and Lillian. 1989. A Guide to Bird Behavior, Vol. III.

Acknowledgment

A draft of this article benefitted from comments by Barbara Frase.

Richard Bjorklund,
Professor of Biology Emeritus, Bradley University,
R. R. 1, 26034 Harris Lane, Topeka, IL 61567.

Glaucous-winged Gull at Lake Springfield, Sangamon County

On 31 December 1994, as I was about to enter the cinder area just north of Lake Springfield, Sangamon County, I saw a large, buffy gull flying toward the flats. The gull had no black in the wing tips or tail. I drove into the cinder flats where the gull was standing with Herring *(Larus argentus)* and Ring-billed *(L. delawarensis)* Gulls. The gull in question was head and shoulders above the Ring-billed Gulls and larger than the Herring Gulls. The bird was in good light to the west at about 9:30 a.m. I put my Kowa scope on the bird at about 40X.

The gull had a large, thick, all-black bill. The plumage was buffy gray all over. It flew once, a short distance, showing little or no translucence in the wing tips, although the underwing appeared lighter. The wings were in fact the same color - grayish buff - all the way to the tip. This is the same impression I had when the gull flew into the flats. Gulls sometimes give this impression when they are in worn plumage (especially toward spring), but this gull did not appear to be in worn plumage.

I also knew that Glaucous Gulls *(L. hyperboreus)* had translucent wing tips and a two-tone bill and Thayer's Gulls *(L. thayeri)* had smaller bills and somewhat more dark areas in the wing tips and tails. The field marks on this gull eliminated Glaucous and Thayer's Gulls as possibilities. I was fairly certain that I was viewing an immature (first year) Glaucous-winged Gull *(L. glaucescens)*. I was familiar with this gull in coastal California, where the species fed on discarded minnows at a bait shop behind my apartment in Oceanside.

The gull was with hundreds of gulls and geese. While I was zeroing in on the fine points, I noticed a white bird with the geese. I scanned to the white bird - a Snow Goose - then quickly back to the gull. I couldn't find it! Thinking it had sat down, I scanned back and forth. Apparently, however, it had flown just as I moved to the Snow Goose. I checked the rest of Lake Springfield

without success. I missed checking eye and leg color, although my impression was that the eye was dark, as it is in most immature gulls.

This sighting represents the second accepted record by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee of five reported Glaucous-winged Gulls in Illinois. The state's first confirmed record was found at Lake Calumet in December 1992. See *Meadowlark*: 4: 47, "First Confirmed Illinois Record of the Glaucous-winged Gull" by David B. Johnson, Laurence C. Binford, Ph.D., Alan Stokie, and Walter Marcisz.

H. David Bohlen,
Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL 62706

Snowy Owl in central Illinois, Vermilion County

On New Year's Eve 1994, a fellow Vermilion County Audubonite, Thelbert Falconer, called to report that there had been a Snowy Owl *(Nyctea scandiaca)* in the Rossville area for the past several days. I could think of no better way to celebrate New Year's Day than tracking this northern species. Two anxious Audubon members scanned fence posts, power line poles, swells, and swales of empty farm fields on both sides of the road until I finally saw the Snowy Owl as it flew from one weed patch to another and pounced on prey.

Two days later, the Snowy Owl was observed in the same area, but near a barn. At intervals, he moved to grassy patches near soil drainage structures. He was most cautious and stayed barely within binocular range. James O. Smith's spotting scope revealed an almost pure white bird with large yellow eye and perhaps a gray feather or two. While we were watching, the owl suddenly rose from the ground and flew directly toward us, then made a right angled turn to a perch on a pole on the next road, just out of camera and binocular range. The following day, the owl was hunting in a cornfield near a grass waterway, a mile or so east of the original sighting point.

Three days passed and snow covered Vermilion County. We decided to check for the bird despite the difficulty of seeing it in the snow. We found it perched on a fat pipe at a gas installation in an empty field. Before this sighting, the most recent confirmed Snowy Owl in central Illinois was January 1990 in Catlin, Illinois, where it remained until April.

Doris Westfall,
303 Northland, Danville, IL 61832

In Memory of Todd Fink

Todd Fink died unexpectedly on July 11, 1995, after a short illness. He was 36 years old, a natural heritage biologist for the Illinois Department of Conservation (now the Illinois Department of Natural Resources), and the best known birder in southern Illinois. He led field trips for the Illinois Ornithological Society, Illinois Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, and many local organizations. He wrote articles for *Meadowlark*, *Illinois Highlights*, *Illinois Audubon*, and *Bird Watcher's Digest*. Well-known as a nature photographer, he had photo credits in several books and periodicals including *The Nature of Illinois*. He was a former IOS director and editorial advisor for *Meadowlark* at the time of his death.

Many southern Illinois birders joined the ranks as a result of Todd's influence. He showed us the best spots at the best times, often resulting in the best birds. During the spring warbler migration, we were impressed by his ability to identify birds not only by song, but also by call notes. While we were focusing on a warbler's song, he was noting a scolding vireo and three kinds of frogs. His mind was quick to process the rarer voice in the dawn chorus, the distant singer we'd all eventually hear, but Todd usually heard first.

He was the only person I met who carried binoculars while he jogged. On one April run he discovered two Henslow's Sparrows. Once he spotted a Short-eared Owl foraging at dusk. Another time he found a family of Pine Warblers overwintering in a pine grove on his jogging route. If Todd didn't have the earliest record or the highest count, he'd likely have the latest departure date for many woodland species.

A few years ago when H. David Bohlen's "Birds of Illinois" was published, I began collecting autographs of birders whose records were published in the book. I asked them to sign next to their best bird. But Todd never autographed my book because he couldn't choose his best bird from among his 65 records that appeared in the book. The Cinnamon Teal, Tricolored Heron, or Ruff he found at Rend Lake would have been worthy, but Todd didn't find them until 1994. The White Ibis foraging with a Willet and American Avocet made the flood of 1993 memorable. But as remarkable as those sightings were for Todd, none of those were his best birds either. The Curve-billed Thrasher we found while scouting for the 1992 Rend Lake CBC earned that title. It was a first state record and a lifer for Todd and me.

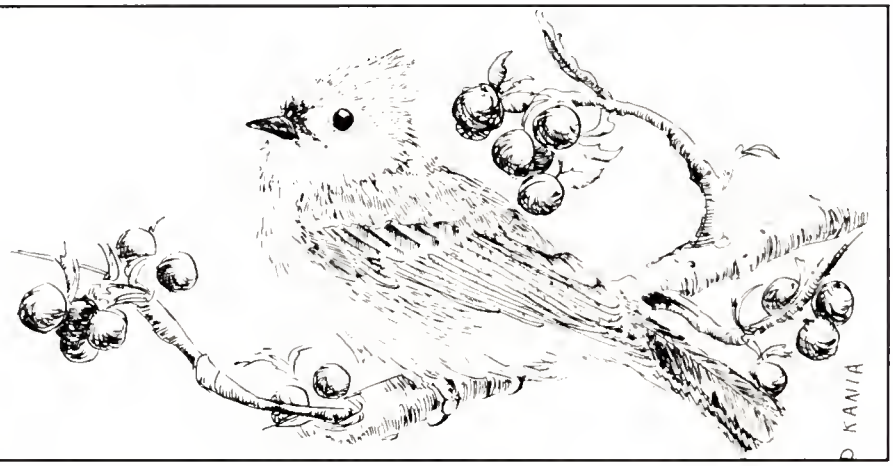
Todd greeted a new year eagerly even though he despised winter. To combat the winter blues he invented a game to see if we could find 100 species in Illinois during January. We could. And January become shorter and more exciting.

Todd's Illinois life list included 340 species and in 1994 he joined the very few who have seen more than 300 species in a single year. On May 12, 1995, Todd set a new state warbler record. He saw 33 species in one day.

Todd was a scientist, lister, recruiter, and friend. We will miss him.

Judy K. DeNeal

Field Notes



Drawing of Tufted Titmouse by Denis Kania.

1994-95 WINTER

by Robert Danley

This was the nation's second warmest winter in 100 years and milder temperatures in Illinois made for some interesting birding. State temperatures in December were 6 to 7 degrees Fahrenheit above normal. January was 2 degrees above normal, while February readings were more seasonal, about .9 degree above normal. Precipitation was .6 inch below normal for December as well as February. January had above normal amounts of precipitation (1.8 inches). Heavy snowfall amounts were recorded in January; 22 inches fell on Moline, for example.

The warmer conditions didn't inhibit Northern Shrikes from a major (perhaps the state's largest) invasion. Lingering shorebirds included both yellowlegs, Sanderling, two peep species, Ruff, and Long-billed Dowitcher. Thirty-four waterfowl species were observed, representing the largest number detected in a winter. Highlights included a male King Eider and breeding mates of Harlequin Duck and Barrow's Goldeneye.

Hawk numbers were typical. Cold fronts in early February in northern Illinois may have induced brief appearances by Gyrfalcon and Prairie Falcon. Gull numbers were below normal although a wider variety of species than usual was observed.

All expected owl species were recorded, but in low numbers. Only two Snowy Owls were observed. Red-breasted Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing, and the winter finches were either absent or found in very low numbers. Many passerines lingered past usual departure dates. Wintering longspurs and Snow Buntings were observed in concentrated pockets at scattered locations.

A special thanks is extended to all contributors to this report, who are listed here in full and by initials following each observation: Jack Armstrong; Louise Augustine; Tom Allison; Arlene Brei; Alan Branhagen (ABr); H. David Bohlen; John Bergstrom (JBe); Laurence Binford; Margaret Baker (MBa); Matthew Blackburn (MBn); Richard Biss; Steve Bailey; Toby Brown, Elizabeth Chato; Marilyn Campbell (MCa); Paul Clyne; Robert Chapel; Bob Danley; Bill DeBaets (BDe); Myrna Deaton; Robert Erickson, Reggie Elkins (REl); Todd Fink; Jim Frazier (JFz); Brad Grover; Michelle Georgi (MGe); Scott Hickman; David Johnson; Denis Kania, Dan Kassebaum (DKa), Peter Kasper, Greg Lambeth; Jim Landing; Cindy McKee (CMc); David Mandel; Joe Milosevich; John McKee (JMc); Keith McMullen; Walter Marcisz; Roy Netherton (RNe); Jerry Olson (JOs); Christine Philip; Alan Stokie; Al Seppi (ASp); Barb Severson (BSe); Cody Smout; Darrell Shambaugh; Dan Spivey (DSp); Jeffrey Sanders (JSa); John Stofan (JSn); Joe Suchecki (JSu); Leonard Stanley; Mark Seiffert (MSe); Paul Sweet (PSw); Wes Serafin; Brian Weller; Dan Williams; Doris Westfall (DWe); Day Waterman (DWt); Eric Walters; Geoff Williamson; Richard Whitton (RWh); Jim Ziebol.

1994-95 Winter Field Notes

Red-throated Loon
1 Jan., Vermilion Co (*RC). IL's first Jan. record this century.

Common Loon
MC: 8, Spfld, 8 Dec. (DB); 6, Rend L, 17 Jan. (LS). Others: 12 Feb., La Salle L (CMc, JMc); 2 Jan., New Athens (St Clair Co) (DKa); 18 Dec., Clin.L (RC); 14 Dec., Powerton L (Tazewell Co) (KR, LA).

Pied-billed Grebe
MC: 99, CONWR, 8 Jan. (TF); 25, Spfld, wintered (DB); 15, Braidwood, 29 Dec. (JM); 8, La Salle L, 3 Dec. (JMc, CMc); 4, O'Fallon (St Clair Co), 1 Jan. (KM). LD: 8 Jan., Yorkville (Kendall Co) (DS); 1 Jan., Wauk (LB).

Great-blue Heron, 27 Jan. 1995, Techny, Cook County. A warm January kept many water-related species lingering in the Chicago area. Photo by Eric Walters.

Horned Grebe
MC: **50**, Clin.L, 10 Dec. (MD); 35, Spfld, 6 Dec. (DB); 29, La Salle L, 3 Dec. (CMc, JMc); 12, Bald. L, 26 Feb. (KM); 4, Highland Park, 26 Dec. (EW, JE). LD: 26 Jan., Glencoe (LB).

Eared Grebe
11 Dec., Spfld (DB).

WESTERN GREBE
7 Dec.-25 Jan., Tazewell Co (KR,LA); 1-7 Jan., Wauk (RE,PSw,*LB,*RB,m.ob.); 1 Jan., Rend L (*LS). IL's first Jan. records.

American White Pelican
2, Powerton L (Tazewell Co), 8-29 Dec. (KR, LA).

Double-crested Cormorant
MC: **200**, Rend L, 17 Dec. (TF). Others: wintered, Spfld (DB); 23 Jan. (3), Carl L (KM); 8 Jan., Rend L (LS); 1 Jan. (14), Carl L (Clinton Co) (DKa, BW); 31 Dec. (5), LCal (WM, WS); 31 Dec., Winnebago Co (JA, BSe); 30 Dec., Winthrop Harbor (DJ); 29 Dec. (**10-12**), Braidwood (JM); 3 Dec. (2), La Salle L (CMc, JMc).

Great Blue Heron
MC: 114, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 48, Beardstown (Cass Co), 14 Jan. (RC); 36, HL, 25 Jan. (KM); 13, La Salle Co, 31 Dec. (CMc, JMc). Others: wintered (4), Will Co (JM); wintered, Boone Co (AB); 1 Dec.-27 Jan., Techny (Cook Co) (EW); 22 Jan. (2), Fermi (JSu); 17 Dec. (7), Winnebago Co (DW); 9 Dec. (5), Spfld (DB).

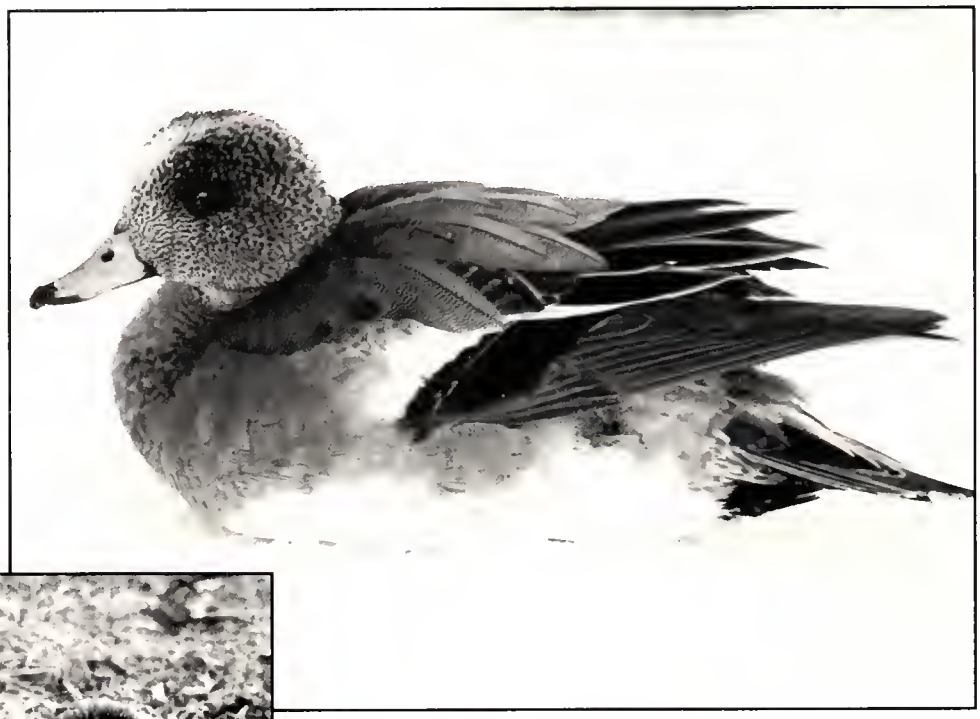
As a printing aide, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

ad = adult
Co = County
imm. = immature
m.ob. = many observers
Carl. L = Carlyle Lake (Clinton Co)
CBG = Chicago Botanical Gardens (Cook Co)
Chi = Chicago's lakefront Parks, excluding JP (Cook Co)
Clin.L = Clinton Lake (De Witt Co)
CONWR = Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (Williamson Co)
DPCA = Des Plaines Conservation Area (Will Co)
Fermi = Fermilab at Batavia (Du Page Co)
GLNTC = Great Lakes Naval Training Station (Lake Co)
GLPSP = Goose Lake Prairie State Park (Grundy Co)
GRCA = Green River Conservation Area (Lee Co)
HL = Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)
HLCA = Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area (Alexander Co)
IBSP = Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)
JP = Chicago's Jackson Park (Cook Co)
LCal = Lake Calumet (Cook Co)
LChau = Lake Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge (Mason Co)
LRen = Lake Renwick (Will Co)
M.Arb = Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
Rend L = Rend Lake (Franklin Co)
Spfld = Springfield (Sangamon Co)
UCCA = Union County Conservation Area (Union Co)
Wauk = Waukegan (Lake Co)

A number in parentheses ( ) indicates the number of birds observed at a particular location or on a particular date. No number signifies single birds.

Aerial surveys of waterfowl were completed by Michelle Georgi on 8 and 13 Dec. and 8 Jan. and by Richard Whitton on 9 and 17 Feb. These should be considered rough population estimates. Also, the Union Co. totals from 22 Dec. were from the Union County Christmas Bird Count and represent an index of species population over a region.

Underlined, bolded, and capitalized species are those records that are of special note due to their rarity in the Illinois winter season. Counts, dates, and locations that are underlined and bolded represent a very unusual site or numbers of that species for a particular region. Regions are defined as northern, central, and southern Illinois.



American Wigeon, immature male, 25 Jan. 1995, Evanston boat launch, Cook County. Photo by Eric Walters.

American Wigeon, adult male, 15 Feb. 1995. Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo pond, Cook County. A pair wintered here. Photo by Eric Walters.

Great Egret
11 Dec., **Madison Co** (KM); **26-27 Dec.** (**3**), **Channahon** (JSn, JM).

Black-crowned Night-Heron
MC: 9, Whistler Woods F.P. (Cook Co), 31 Dec.- 5 Feb. (WM, MBa); 4-10, HL, wintered (DKa, KM). Others: 10 Dec. (imm.), Glenview (LB); 18 Dec. (2), Skokie (JSa); 31 Dec. (3), LCal (WM).

Tundra Swan
MC: **43**, M.Arb (and later in day at Palos), 18 Dec. (TB, m.ob.); **29**, Fermi, 11 Dec. (JFz); **19**, Rockford, 11 Dec. (DW); 14, LChau, 22 Dec.- 1 Jan. (KR). Others: 3 Dec., South Beloit (Winnebago Co) (BG); 7 Dec. (2 imm.), Spfld (DB); 26 Dec., Highland Park (EW, *JE); 14 Jan., Sanganois C.A. (RC); 21 Jan., Jackson Co (CS, TF).

Mute Swan
MC: **75**, Wolf L (Cook Co), 15 Feb. (EW). Others: 15 Dec. (3), Spfld (DB); 21 Dec., Hancock Co (KR); 2 Jan. (2), LChau (RC); 21 Jan. (ad.), Jackson Co (CS, TF).

Trumpeter Swan
MC: 13, Carl. L (Clinton Co), 15 Dec. (MSe). Others: 11-29 Dec. (3 unbanded), Sand L (Mason Co) (KR); 18 Dec.- 1 Jan. (5 banded), LChau (KR); 26 Dec. (1st winter), CBG (LB); 5 Jan. (4), Madison Co (KM); 21 Jan. (5 banded- green/yellow collars), Jackson Co (CS, TF); 18 Feb. (2 banded-66K & 68K), Clin.L (RC). Numbers increasing in winter - should be looked for.

Greater White-fronted Goose
MC: **180** (2 banded-red collars Z69 & Y51), UCCA, 9 Jan. (TF); 118, Franklin Co, 21 Feb. (LS); 105, St Clair Co, 19 Feb. (DKa); 32, Spfld, 31 Jan. (DB). Others: 22 Dec. (3), LChau (KR), 26 Dec., **Buffalo Grove** (LB, JG); 31 Jan. (3), Clin.L (MD).

Snow Goose
MC: **148,000** (major staging), southern Illinois refuges, 17 Feb. (RWh); 35,000, Rend L (Jefferson Co), 17 Dec. (TF); 1,800, Sangamon Co, 22 Feb. (DB). Others: 17 Dec. (3), Winnebago Co (DW); 17-18 Dec.(6), Bolingbrook (Du Page Co) (WM); 18 Dec., Chi (JSa); 26 Dec. (2 -white & blue phase), CBG (LB); 31 Dec. (81), La Salle L (CMc, JMc); 3 Jan. (2), L Ren (JM); 22 Jan., Fermi (JSu).

Ross' Goose
21 Nov.- 7 Dec. (3), **Winnebago Co** (*BG); 10 Dec. (**4**), LChau (KR); 20 Dec., HLCA (DB); 2 Jan., Bald. L (DKa); 22 Jan., Carl. L (Clinton Co) (DKa); 26 Feb. (2 ad.), Sangamon Co (DB); 3 singles during period, Johnson, Pulaski and Union Cos. (TF).

Canada Goose
MC: 374,500, southern Illinois refuges, 9 Jan. (RWh). Others: "hutchinsii" form- 26 Dec. (9), CBG (LB).

Wood Duck
27 Dec. (female), Channahon (JM); 31 Dec. (female), LCal (WM); 7 Jan. (pair), Clin.L (MD); 7+ Jan. (female), Wauk (PSw, LB); 22 Jan., Fermi (JSu); female wintered, Spfld (DB).

Green-winged Teal
MC: 150, Carl. L, 18 Dec. (KM); 29, La Salle L, 31 Dec. JMc, CMc). Others: 3 Dec. (2), Pratt Wayne Woods F.P. (Du Page Co) (JSu); 15 Dec. (male), Spfld (DB); 24 Dec. (5), Joliet (JM); 31 Dec., LCal (WM); 8 Jan., La Salle L (DS).

American Black Duck
MC: 347, Rend L (Jefferson Co), 17 Dec. (TF); 250, La Salle L, 3 Dec. (CMc, JMc); 150, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 2 Jan. (JM); 100, Carl. L (Fayette Co), 18 Dec. (KM); 20, Spfld, 15 Dec. (DB).

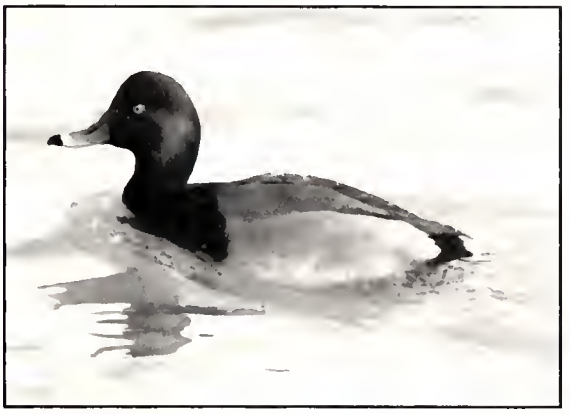
Mallard
MC: 204,000, LChau, 8 Dec. (MGe); 15,000, La Salle L, 3 Dec. (CMc, JMc); 12,000, Carl. L (Fayette Co), 18 Dec. (KM); 4,000,

Braidwood & Heidecke L, 2 Jan. (JM); 2,000, Spfld, 3 Jan. (DB).

Northern Pintail
MC: 6,500, Dardenne (lower Mississippi valley), 13 Dec. (MGe). Others: 18 Dec. (50), Carl. L (KM); 20 Dec. (15), HLCA (VK, m.ob.); 3 Jan. (pair), Spfld (DB); 7 Jan., Wauk (PSw); 29 Jan. (5), La Salle L (JMc, CMc); wintered, Winnebago Co (DW).

Blue-winged Teal
21 Dec. (2), Pulaski Co (TF); 22 Dec. (2), Union Co (MD); **21 Jan.**, Franklin Co (LS).

Northern Shoveler
MC: 6,500, LChau, 8 Jan. (MGe); 600, HL, 25 Jan. (KM); 121, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 7 Dec. (28), Spfld (DB); 17 Dec. (2), Rockford (DW); 21 Dec.- 1 Feb. (female), CBG (LB); 1 Jan. (6), L Mendota (La Salle Co) (CMc, JMc); 2 Jan. (7), Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (JM); wintered (imm. male), IBSP (AS).



Redhead, 20 Dec. 1994, Evanston boat launch, Cook County. Photo by Eric Walters.

Gadwall
MC: 975, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 900, HL, 1 Jan. (KM). Others: 18 Dec. (68), Spfld (DB); 26 Dec. (95), Crest Hill (Will Co) (JM); 7 Jan. (24), LCal (JSa); 15 Jan. (2), La Salle L (JMc, CMc).

American Wigeon
MC: 60, Carl. L (Fayette Co), 18 Dec. (KM); 36, LRen, 23 Dec. (JM); 15, Vermilion Co, 19-31 Dec. (JS); 10, Wauk, 1 Jan. (LB). Others: 3 Dec. (4), La Salle L (CMc, JMc); 13 Dec.-1 Apr. (imm. male), Evanston (EW,m.ob.); 15 Dec. (3), Spfld (DB); 8 Jan., Yorkville (Kendall Co) (DS); 18 Jan. (female), Winnebago Co (BG); wintered (pair), Chi (EW).

Canvasback
MC: 10,800, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 13 Dec. (MGe). Others: 11 Dec. (37), Spfld (DB); 17 Dec., Rockford (DW); 27 Dec. (2), Winnebago Co (BG); 30 Dec. (4), GLNTC (LB); 1 Jan. (60), O'Fallon (St Clair Co) (KM); 2 Jan. (14), Heidecke L (JM); 9 Jan. (40), CONWR (BD); 22 Jan., Chi (WM).

Redhead
MC: **141**, IBSP & GLNTC, 1 Jan. (LB); 50, Carbondale, 1 Jan. (BD); 20, Illinois R (La Salle Co), 5 Feb. (CMc, JMc). Others: 12 Dec. (6), Spfld (DB); 26 Dec. (6), LRen (JM); 22 Jan.- 4 Feb. (pair), Chi (WM); 17 Dec.-5 Mar., Evanston (EW).

Ring-necked Duck
MC: 600, Carl. L, 18 Dec. (KM); 300, Pulaski Co, 21 Dec. (TF); 250, LRen, 23 Dec. (JM). Others: 11 Dec. (24), Spfld (DB); 2 Jan., La Salle Co (DS); 29 Jan. (15), Grundy Co (JSa); 5 Feb. (2), Illinois R (La Salle Co) (CMc, JMc).

Greater Scaup
MC: 2,100, Evanston, 21 Dec. (LB). Others: 1 Dec. (2), Sand L (Mason Co) (KR); 12 Dec. (3), Spfld (DB); 18 Dec., Clin.L (RC); 26 Dec. (4), Joliet (JM); 2 Jan. (absent thereafter), JP (PC); 6 Jan., Carl. L (KM); 11 Feb. (15), CONWR (TF).

Mute Swans in a flock of 75, 15 Feb. 1995, Wolf Lake, Cook County. Photo by Eric Walters.

Lesser Scaup
MC: 300, Carl. L, 23 Jan. (KM); 200, Spfld, 8 Dec. (DB); 50, Joliet, 24 Dec. (JM); 6, Illinois R (La Salle Co), 5 Feb. (CMc, JMc).

KING EIDER
2 Jan.- 18 Feb. (male), Heidecke L (JOs, TA, m.ob).

Harlequin Duck
24 Dec. (2 females), IBSP (AS); 15 Feb.-1 Mar. (pr.), JP (*PC,m.ob.-photo).

Oldsquaw
MC: 85, L Michigan (Cook Co), 26 Dec. (JSa). Others: 3 Dec., IBSP (AS); 9 Dec. (6), Spfld (DB); 17 Dec. (2), L Decatur (MD); 26 Dec. (2), Clin.L (TF); 14 Jan. (2), Rend L (BD); 22 Jan. (2), Carl. L (DKa); 25 Jan., Powerton L (Tazewell Co) (KR, LA); 11 Feb. (3), CONWR (TF).

Black Scoter
3 Dec. (3), **Winnebago Co** (*ABr); 7 Dec., **Powerton L** (Tazewell Co) (KR); 30 Dec. (5), Winthrop Harbor (LB); 2 Jan. (7), IBSP (AS).

Surf Scoter
MC: **56**, Winthrop Harbor, 27 Dec. (TF, DKa, KM) - 29 still present 31 Dec. (AS). Others: 10 Dec. (11), Clin.L (MD); 18 Dec. (female), Carl. L (DKa); 21 Dec., Nauvoo (Hancock Co) (KR); 22 Dec., **UCCA** (*DB); 25 Dec. (2), Pool 19 -Hancock Co (DB); 7 Jan., CONWR (BD); 1-2 Feb. (female), Zion (PSw).

White-winged Scoter
10 Dec. (3), Clin.L (MD); 14 Dec., SLSP (DB); 26 Dec. (5), Nauvoo (Hancock Co) (KR); 30 Dec. (5), Winthrop Harbor (LB); 31 Dec. (10), IBSP (AS).

Common Goldeneye
MC: 6,200, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 13 Dec. (MGe); 1,700, Carl. L, 23 Jan. (KM); 600, Spfld, 14 Dec. (DB); 600, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 2 Jan. (JM); 500, Illinois R at Seneca, 12 Feb. (CMc, JMc). "Hybrid" Common Goldeneye/ Hooded Merganser: 26 Jan., Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (KR, LA); 26 Feb., L Decatur (MD).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE
31 Jan & 7 Feb.(male), Winthrop Harbor (*PSw, *DJ) See seasonal highlights.

Bufflehead
MC: **145**, Winthrop Harbor, 30 Dec. (DJ); **90**, Spfld, 8 Dec. (DB). Others: 29, JP, 2 Dec. (PC).

Hooded Merganser
MC: **337**, CONWR, 15 Dec. (TF); **118**, La Salle L, 3 Dec. (CMc, JMc); **60**, Spfld, 18 Dec. (DB); **50**, Will/ Grundy Cos., 2 Jan. (JM); 42, IIL, 1 Jan. (KM); 14, Wauk, 10 Feb. (EW).

Common Merganser
MC: 5,000, La Salle L, 31 Dec. (JMc, CMc); 2,000, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 2 Jan. (JM); 800, Spfld, 2 Feb. (DB); 720, IIL, 14 Feb. (KM); 165, LCal, 15 Feb. (EW); absent in mid winter, JP (PC).

Red-breasted Merganser
MC: 235, LCal, 10 Dec. (WM); 100, Clin.L, 10 Dec. (RC, MD); 100, Bald. L, 9 Jan. (KM); 30, Spfld, 9 Dec. (DB); 15, CONWR, 15 Dec. (TF).

Ruddy Duck
MC: **500**, Clin.L, 10 Dec. (MD); **475**, Spfld, 8 Dec. (DB); **200+**, IIL, 9 Dec. (KM). Others: 21-22 Dec., CBG (LB); 24 Dec. (2), Joliet (JM); 26 Dec., Techny (Cook Co) (LB); 30 Dec., Winthrop Harbor (LB).

Black Vulture
21 Dec. (25), Johnson Co (TF).

Turkey Vulture
20 Dec. (8), IIL (KM); 22 Jan., Franklin Co (LS).

Bald Eagle
MC: 85, Cass, Mason & Fulton Cos., 14 Jan. (RC); 27, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 10 Dec. (2), Carl. L (Fayette Co) (KM); 17 Dec. (3), Winnebago Co (DW); 17 Dec., Bolingbrook (Will Co) (WM); 16 Jan. (3), Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (JM); 25 Feb. (5), Spfld (DB).

Northern Harrier
MC: 13, Pulaski Co, 21 Dec. (TF); 12, La Salle Co, 15 Jan. (JMc, CMc); 8, Carl. L (Fayette Co), 18 Dec. (KM); 5, Techny (Cook Co), 13 Feb. (EW); 5, Dragon L F.P. (Du Page Co), 18 Feb. (JSu). Others: 10 Dec., Chi (WM); 18 Dec., Greene Valley F.P. (Du Page Co) (WM); 26 Dec., LCal (WM); none wintered, Sangamon Co (DB).

Immature Bald Eagle, 27 Jan. 1995, Heidecke Lake, Grundy County. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

Sharp-shinned Hawk
MC: 6, Winnebago Co, wintered (DW); 3, Mason Co, 27 Dec. (KR). Others: 7 Dec.- 15 Jan., Vermilion Co (JS); wintered, O'Fallon (St Clair Co) (KM). Individuals recorded on one date in Boone, Champaign, De Kalb, Mason, Sangamon & Co's as well as at Ottawa, Braidwood, SRSF.

Cooper's Hawk
10 Dec.- 25 Feb. (ad.), LCal (WM); 18 Dec. (2), Boone Co (AB); 23 Dec.- 12 Jan., Evanston/Wilmette (EW,m.ob.); 27 Dec. (2 ad.), Mason Co (KR); 31 Jan. (2), Sangamon Co (DB); wintered, M.Arb (EW, m.ob.). Individuals recorded on single dates in Champaign, Cook, Du Page, Fulton, Grundy, La Salle, Mason, McLean, Vermilion, Washington Co's as well as at IIL.

Northern Goshawk
8 Dec. (imm.), Spfld (DB); 26 Dec. (imm.), Rockton (Winnebago Co) (BG); 8 Jan. (imm.), Clin.L (RC); 12 Jan. (ad.), Johnson Co (TF); 24 Jan. (imm.), Carl. L (Clinton Co) (MSe).

Red-shouldered Hawk
MC: 12, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 18 Dec., Carl.

Hooded Mergansers, five of 14 present, 10 Feb. 1995, Waukegan Harbor, Lake County. Photo by Eric Walters.

L (KM); 25 Dec., HL (DKa, ASp); 26 Dec. (2), Cook Co (m.ob.); 26 Dec., Beck Lake F.P. (Cook Co) (JSu); 2 Jan. (2), Starved Rock Lock & Dam (La Salle Co) (CMc, JMc); 5 Feb., Whistler Woods F. P. (Cook Co) (WM).

Red-tailed Hawk
MC: 53, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 15, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM, MBa et al); 12, Du Page Co, 16 Dec. (JSu); 11, Sangamon Co, 10 Dec. (DB); 8, Bond Co, 18 Dec. (KM). *Albino*- 1 Feb., Carl. L (MSe, DKa). *Rufous morph*- 18 Dec., Du Page Co (AW, DA); 25 Feb., LCal (WM, GW). *Dark phase*- 2 Feb., wintered, Spfld (DB); 26 Feb., Franklin Co (LS). *Harlan's*- wintered, UCCA (BD, TF, LS).

Rough-legged Hawk
MC: 7, Techny (Cook Co), 13 Feb. (EW); 4, Joliet Arsenal, 24 Feb. (JM); 4, Vermilion Co, 9 Jan. (JS); 3, Pulaski Co, 21 Dec. (TF); 3, Sangamon Co, 12 Feb. (DB); 3, La Salle Co, 22 Feb. (DS). Others: 10 Dec. (dark phase), IBSP (AS); 10 Dec., LCal (WM); 12-31 Dec. (2), La Salle Co (JMc, CMc); 1 Jan., Bond Co (DKa, BW); 7 Jan. (2), Vermilion Co (JS); 15 Jan., Du Page Co (AS); 23 Jan. (2), Carl. L (KM); 7 Feb., Winthrop Harbor (SH).

Golden Eagle
17 Dec. (imm.), Jo Daviess Co (fide BD); 4 Feb. (imm. feeding on deer carcass), Pope Co (DSp); 10,12 & 19 Feb. (ad.), UCCA (TF & BD); 25 Feb. (ad.), Spfld (DB).

American Kestrel
MC: 67, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 10, Sangamon Co, 25 Dec. (DB); 9, Du Page Co, 17 Dec. (JSu); 9, Bond Co, 18 Dec. (KM); 9, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM, MBa et al).

Merlin
17 Dec. (*columbarius*), Winnebago Co (DW); 29 Jan. (ad.), Normal (McLean Co) (KR, LA); 4 Feb. (***richardsonii***), Winnebago Co (*DW); **wintered** (ad. male), Fern Clyffe S. P. (Johnson Co) (TF).

Peregrine Falcon
23 Dec. (2), Joliet (REl, JM); 27 Feb. (2), Spfld (DB); wintered (2), JP (GS, m.ob.).

Gyrfalcon
25 Feb.- 4 Mar. (**dark phase**), **Clin.L** (*RC, *MD) See seasonal highlights.

Prairie Falcon
25 Jan., Clinton Co (*MSe).

Gray Partridge
17 Dec. (2), Winnebago Co (DW).

Ring-necked Pheasant
MC: 28, Fermi, 17 Dec. (DK,PK);15, Pratt Wayne Woods F.P. (Du Page Co), 17 Dec. (JSu); 13, Sangamon Co, 3 Jan. (DB).

Wild Turkey
MC: 42, SRSF, 29 Dec. (KR). Others: 22 Dec. (9), Union Co (VK, m.ob.); 12 Feb. (2), Seneca (La Salle Co) (JMc, CMc); 26 Feb. (4), Jefferson Co (KM); 27 Feb. (12), Sang. L (DB).

Northern Bobwhite
MC: 20, 1IL, 9 Dec. (KM); 15, Sangamon Co. 1 Jan. (DB).

Virginia Rail
9 Dec. (window kill), Urbana (fide EC); 26 Dec., Joliet (usual location) (JM).

COMMON MOORHEN
31 Dec., LCal (*MBa). 3rd IL record, 2nd in last two years.

American Coot
MC: **1,000**, Braidwood, 29 Dec. (JM); **950**, 1IL, 11 Dec. (KM); 205, GLNTC, 30 Dec. (LB); 185, Rend L, 17 Dec. (TF); 150, Spfld, 12 Dec. (DB).

Sandhill Crane
MC: **40**, Fermi, 11 Dec. (fide JFz). Others: **1 Jan.**, **Clinton Co** (DKa); **2 Jan.**, **JP** (*PC); **25 Jan. & 23 Feb.**, **Rend L** (LS); **wintered**, **CONWR** (fide BD).

Killdeer
MC: 30, Bond Co, 10 Dec. (KM); 26, Sang. L, 10 Dec. (DB); 12, Pulaski Co, 21 Dec. (TF).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS
17 Dec. (3), Rend L (MSe); 29 Dec. (4), Rend L (LS). IL's first winter records.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS
8 Dec., Sand L (Mason Co) (KR, LA); 17 Dec. (3), Rend L (MSe); 29 Dec. (3), Rend L (LS). IL's first winter records.

SANDERLING
24 Nov., Wauk (fide EW); 2-6 Dec & 9-12 Dec., Chi (JPu); 20-21 Dec., Evanston (EW) - all 3 records are of same bird with an injured leg. IL's 4th winter record.

WESTERN SANDPIPER
24 Nov.-11 Dec., Sand L (Mason Co) (KR); 27 Dec., LChau (KR). IL's first winter record.

Least Sandpiper
8 Dec. (3) & 12 Dec. (3) & 22 Dec. (2), **Sand L** (Mason Co) (KR); 17 Dec. (15) & **29 Dec.** (**10**), Rend L (MSe & LS)).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER
23 Dec., Rend L (LS). IL's third winter record.

Dunlin
8-11 Dec. (6), **Sand L** (Mason Co) (KR); 27 Dec.(2), **LChau** (KR); 1 Jan., **Rend L** (LS).

RUFF
23 Nov.- 12 Dec. (*reeve*), Sand L (Mason Co) (KR et al). IL's first winter record.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER
24 Nov.- 11 Dec. (2), Sand L (Mason Co) (KR, m.ob.). IL's first winter record.

Common Snipe
MC: 14, UCCA, 8 Jan. (TF); **11**, Glenview (Air Station), 26 Dec. (LC). Others: 15 Jan. (2), Pratt Wayne Woods F.P. (Du Page Co) (m.ob.); a few wintered, Sangamon Co (DB).

Sanderling, 20 Dec. 1994, Evanston boat launch, Cook County. Bird was present since November 1994. Leg was injured. This is a late northern Illinois sighting for this species. Photo by Eric Walters.

Little Gull
30 Oct.- 4 Dec. (imm.), Clin.L (AS,*RC).

Bonaparte's Gull
MC: 1,000, La Salle L, 3 Dec. (JMc, CMc); 500, Spfld, 1 Dec. (DB); 400, L Decatur (Macon Co), 10 Dec. (MD); 175, Carl. L, 10 Dec. (KM); 53, Chi, 11 Dec. (WM). Others: 24 Dec. (11), IBSP (AS); 16 Jan. (2), JP (PC).

Mew Gull
23 Dec., **Evanston** (*CP).

Ring-billed Gull
MC: 10,100, Carl. L, 23 Jan. (KM); 10,000, L Decatur (Macon Co), 10 Dec. (MD); 8,000, Spfld, 5 Dec. (DB); 2,000, Greene Valley F.P. (Du Page Co), 17 Dec. (WM); 820, Evanston/ Wilmette (Cook Co), 26 Dec. (EW, JE).

California Gull
25 Feb., **Clin.L** (*RC).

Herring Gull
MC: 4,500, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM); 1,000, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 2 Jan. (JM); 300, HL, 9 Jan. (KM); 288, JP, 26 Feb. (PC); 50, Spfld, 3 Jan. (DB).

Thayer's Gull
MC: 7, Lake Co lakefront, 1 Jan. (LB). Others: 15 Dec.(ad.), Powerton L (Tazewell Co) (KR); 19 Dec. (ad.), Carl. L (KR); 24 Dec. (ad., imm.), HL (DKa, ASp); 26 Dec. (ad.), Techny (Cook Co) (LB); 1 Jan. (ad.), Spfld (DB); 2 Jan., LChau & Pekin (RC); 4 Jan. (ad.), Peoria Lock & Dam (KR); 5 Jan. (3), LCal (JL);14-16 Jan. (3-1st winter,subadult, ad.), Clin.L (RC, MD); 16 Jan., Du Page Co (EW, JE); 3 Feb. (ad.), Spfld (DB); 18 Feb. (2 ad.), Alton (DKa, ASp); 18 Feb. (1st winter), Wauk (PSw).

Iceland Gull
5 Jan. (Kumliens), LCal (JL); 21 Jan., LCal (RC); 12 Feb. (1st winter), CONWR (BD).

Lesser Black-backed Gull
11 Dec. (ad., 2nd winter) & 31 Jan. (ad.), Spfld (DB); 16 Dec. (different ad.), Spfld (DB); 17 Dec. (4th-winter), Greene Valley F.P. (Du Page Co) (WM); 31 Dec. & 7 Jan. (2 ad. & ad.), LCal (WM & AS); 2 Jan. (2nd-winter), Pekin (RC); 8-14 Jan. (imm.), Clin.L (RC); 9-11 Jan. (3rd-winter), HL (KM, DKa); 21 Jan. (3rd winter), Wilmette (RC); 7 Feb. (2nd winter), Winthrop Harbor (DJ); 11 Feb. (ad.), Pekin (RC); 14 Feb. (ad.), **Fox R (Kane Co)** (DWt, RNe) - first Co record; 18 Feb. (ad.), Alton (DKa, ASp); 20 Feb. (2nd winter) & 26 Feb. (ad.), Clin.L (MD); 27-28 Feb. (1st winter), L Decatur (MD).

Glaucous Gull
MC: 6, LCal, 15-19 Feb. (JL); 3, Lake Co lakefront, 30 Dec.-1 Jan. (LB); 3, LCal, 7 Jan. (JSa, AS); 2 (ad.), Alton, 18 Feb. (DKa, ASp). Others: 11 & 14 Dec. (2nd-winter), Spfld (DB); 2 Jan. (ad.), Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (JM); 5 & 12 Jan. (1st winter), Powerton L (Tazewell Co) (KR); 29 Jan. (2nd winter), Carl L (MSe); 2 Feb. (ad.), HL (DKa, ASp); 12 Feb. (1st-winter), Kane Co (DS); 22-23 Feb. (ad.), Spfld (DB); 25 Feb. (2nd-winter), JP (PC); 28 Feb. (1st winter), Lake Co (DJ).

GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL
31 Dec. Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co (DB) See seasonal highlights. 2nd state record if accepted by IORC.

Great Black-backed Gull
8-29 Jan. (ad.), Clin.L (RC, MD); 8 Jan.- 25 Feb. (imm.), Clin.L (MD, RC); 16 Jan. (1st-winter), Winthrop Harbor (PSw); 18 Jan. (ad.), LCal (LB); 14 Feb. (2nd-winter), Spfld (DB); 15-26 Feb. (2 ad.), LCal (JL,WM); 25 Feb. (ad.), IBSP (AS).
Black-legged Kittiwake 7 Dec. (**ad.**), **Powerton L** (Tazewell Co) (KR).

Mourning Dove
MC: 232, Pratt Wayne Woods F.P. (Du Page Co), 17 Jan. (JSu); 228, Sangamon Co, 18 Dec. (DB); 137, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM et al).

Eastern Screech-Owl
MC: 11, Spfld, 18 Dec. (DB); 5, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.).

Great Horned Owl
MC: 12, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 4, Boone Co, 15 Dec. (AB); 4, Carl. L, 18 Dec. (KM); 4, Sangamon Co, 18 Dec. (DB).

Snowy Owl
1-15 Jan., **Rossville** (Vermilion Co) (DWe, m.ob.) see seasonal highlights; 22 Jan., Chi (Miegs Airport) (fide RB).

Barred Owl
MC: 9, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.).

Long-eared Owl
MC: 23, La Salle Co, 19 Feb. (MD); 9, Dragon Lake F.P. (Du Page Co), 18 Feb. (JSu); 5, Fermi, 16 Jan. (EW, JE). Others: 11 Dec.-1 Mar. (3), Homer L (Champaign Co) (RC); 17 Dec. (2), Rend L (DKa); 17 Dec.-29 Jan. (2), Clinton Co (DKa); 1 Jan. & 29 Jan. (3), GRCA (CMc,JMc & DS); 2 Jan., Pecatonica (Winnebago Co) (DW); 18 Jan., Salt Fork Preserve (Champaign Co) (JS); 26 Feb., Monroe Co (DKa).

Short-eared Owl
MC: 15, Franklin Co, 18 Feb. (LS, MBn); 13, Carl. L (Clinton Co), 1-10 Feb. (MSe, DKa). Others: 17 Dec., Urbana (RC); 18 Dec., Clin.L (RC, SB); 21 Dec. (2), Pulaski Co (TF); Dec.-Feb. (2), La Salle Co (DS); Dec.-Jan. (2), De Kalb Co (DS); 8 Jan. (2), Johnson Co (TF); 15 Jan., Allerton Park (RC); 15 Jan. (3), La Salle Co (CMc, JMc); 25 Jan., Sand L (Mason Co) (KR, LA); wintered (5), Carl. L (St Clair Co) (DKa); wintered (3-4), Pratt Wayne Woods F.P. (Du Page Co) (m.ob.).

Northern Saw-whet Owl
18 Dec., Clin.L (SB et al); 30 Dec.-8 Jan., KCP (RC, JS); 15 Jan., Allerton Park (RC); Jan.-19 Feb., Pecatonica (Winnebago Co) (DW, BG).

Belted Kingfisher
MC: 22, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 3, Spfld, mid-Dec. (DB).

Red-headed Woodpecker
MC: 209, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 7, Spfld, 30 Dec. (DB); 4, Winnebago Co, 17 Dec. (DW); 3, Highland Park, 26 Dec. (EW, JE); 3, Braidwood, 2 Jan. (JM).

Red-bellied Woodpecker
MC: 178, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 17, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu); 15, Spfld, 18 Dec. (DB).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
MC: 21, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 7, Spfld, Dec. (DB). Others: 10 Dec., Glenview (LB); 17 Dec., Fabyan Woods (Kane Co) (AS); Dec.-18 Jan., Winnebago Co (ABr, BG); 31 Jan., De Kalb Co (DS); wintered, Boone Co (AB).

Downy Woodpecker
MC: 185, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 5, JP, wintered (PC).

Hairy Woodpecker
MC: 59, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 5, Spfld, 4 Jan. (DB).

Northern Flicker
MC: 150, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 17, Spfld, 8 Dec. (DB); 9, Northbrook (Cook Co), 26 Dec. (m.ob.); 9, La Salle L, 31 Dec. (JMc, CMc).

Pileated Woodpecker
MC: 95, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 4, Spfld, 20 Feb. (DB). Others: 26 Dec., Ryerson C.A. (Lake Co) (AS); 26 Jan. (2), Vermilion Co (JS).

Eastern Phoebe
22 Dec., Union Co (fide VK).

Horned Lark
MC: 500, Vermilion Co, 8 Jan. (JS); 220, Bond Co, 18 Dec. (KM); 135, Sangamon Co, 6 Feb. (DB); 69, Du Page Co, 17 Dec. (JSu); 18, Boone Co, 10 Feb. (AB); 8, s.w. Cook Co, 16 Jan. (EW, JE).

Blue Jay
MC: 424, Horseshoe L (Alexander Co), 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 23, Boone Co, 2 Feb. (AB); 20, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu).

American Crow
MC: 1,000+, Belleville (St Clair Co), 11 Jan. (KM); 1,000, Evanston, Dec.-Jan. (EW). Others: 160, Spfld, 7 Dec. (DB); 86, JP, wintered (PC).

Black-capped Chickadee
MC: 76, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu); 35, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM); 30, Spfld, 18 Dec. (DB).

Carolina Chickadee
MC: 433, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.).

Tufted Titmouse
MC: 312, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 16, Spfld, 20 Feb. (DB).

Red-breasted Nuthatch
28 Dec., Clin.L (KM); 29 Dec. (2), Spfld (DB); 18 Jan., Salt Fork Preserve (Champaign Co) (JS); 11 Feb. (2), CONWR (TF); 19 Feb. (2), Carl.L (DKa); wintered (3), M. Arb (EW).

White-breasted Nuthatch
MC: 178, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.).

Brown Creeper
MC: 20, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 11, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu). Others: 4, Spfld, 30 Dec. (DB); 2, wintered, JP (PC).

Carolina Wren
MC: 250, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 9, Spfld, 18 Dec. (DB); 2, Starved Rock S.P. (La Salle Co), 2 Jan. (CMc,JMc); 2, Evanston, 24 Nov.-29 Jan. (EW); DPCA, 2 Jan. (JM); Illini S.P. (La Salle Co), 18 Feb. (DS).

House Wren
20 Dec., HLCA (fide VK).

Winter Wren
MC: 34, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 5 Dec., Vermilion Co (JS); 17 Dec., Fabyan Woods (Kane Co) (AS); 18 Dec. (2), Spfld (DB); 26 Dec., Lockport (JM); 1 Jan., MacArthur Woods (Lake Co) (AS); 1 Jan. (2), GLNTC (LB); 6 Feb., Zion (Lake Co) (PSw).

Golden-crowned Kinglet
MC: 110, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 5, Spfld, 3 Dec. (DB).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
MC: 32, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 14 Dec., Spfld (DB); 16 Jan., Allerton Park (Piatt Co) (MD); **wintered**, Rockton (Winnebago Co) (ABr, BG).

Eastern Bluebird
MC: 199, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 9, Spfld, 3 Dec. (DB); 3, M. Arb, wintered (m.ob).

Hermit Thrush
MC: 9, Union Co, 22 Dec.(VK, m.ob.). Others: 11 Dec., Decatur (Macon Co) (MD); 26 Dec., Wilmette (m.ob.); 3 Jan., Johnson

Co (TF); 8 Jan., Skokie Lagoons (Cook Co) (AS).

American Robin
MC: 2,400, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu) but only 845 there on 16 Jan. (EW,JE). Others: 153, Evanston, 23 Dec. (EW);100, Vermilion Co, 28 Feb. (JS); 55, Spfld, 28 Feb. (DB).

Gray Catbird
3 Dec., Urbana (RC); 10 Dec., Clin.L (MD); 11 Dec., Spfld (DB); 31 Dec., Rockford (DW).

Mockingbird
MC: 33, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 4 Dec. (4), Spfld (DB); 2 Jan. (2), Braidwood & GLPSP (JM); 2 wintered, O'Fallon (St Clair Co) (KM).

Brown Thrasher
MC: 13, HLCA, 20 Dec, (VK, m.ob.). Others: 2 wintered, Spfld (DB); wintered, Glencoe (LB).

American Pipit
MC: 16, Carl. L (Clinton Co), 11 Dec. (DKa); 5, UCCA, 26 Feb. (KM). Others: 8 Dec., Powerton L (Tazewell Co)(KR, LA); 17+ Dec., Urbana (RC); 20 Dec., HLCA (MD); 21 Dec., Pulaski Co (TF).

Cedar Waxwing
MC: 500+, Rockford, 12 Feb. (DW); 182, Rockford, 17 Dec. (DW). Others: 30, Franklin Co, 2 Jan. (LS); 25, Spfld, 18 Dec. (DB); 13, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 1 Jan. (JSu); 12, Boone Co, 26 Dec. (AB); absent mostly from n.e. Illinois (EW).

Northern Shrike
MAJOR INVASION –10 Dec., La Salle Co (DS); 11-16 Dec., Fermi (JSu); 12 Dec., Lee Co (CMc, JMc); 17 Dec. (4), Winnebago Co (DW); 18 Dec., Clin.L (MD); 27 Dec., Bureau Co (JMc, CMc); 30 Dec., Kane Co (fide JFz); 1 Jan., Kendall Co (DS); 1 Jan., Gages L (Lake Co) (DJ); 2 Jan., GLPSP (JM); 7-8 Jan., Fulton Co (KM); 15 Jan.- 12 Feb., Homer L (Champaign Co) (RC, EC); 16 Jan., Clin.L (RC); 16 Jan., Orland Hills (Cook Co) (EW, JE); 16 Jan., Cisco (Piatt Co) (MD); 21 Jan., sw. Cook Co (AS); 21 Jan., Volo Bog (Lake Co) (PSw); 29 Jan., La Salle Co (JMc, CMc); 29 Jan., Crabtree N.C. (Cook Co) (AS); mid Dec.-27 Jan., Techny (Cook Co) (LB, EW, m.ob.); Dec.-Jan. (2), IBSP (AS); Dec.-Jan. (4), from 3 locations Boone Co (AB). Seemed to disappear in Feb.

Loggerhead Shrike
MC: 10, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 5, Bond Co, 18 Dec. (KM); Mason Co, 4 & 14 Dec. (KR).

European Starling
MC: 21,150, Glenview (JSu,LB) - nearly gone by mid-Jan.; 8,500, LCal, 26 Dec. (WM); 1300, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.).

Orange-crowned Warbler
15 Dec., Spfld (DB); 21 Dec., Johnson Co (TF).

NASHVILLE WARBLER
1 Jan. (ad. male), GLNTC (*LB, *RB). IL's 9th winter record.

NORTHERN PARULA
20 Dec., Johnson Co (**TF). IL's 3rd winter record.

Yellow-rumped Warbler
MC: 178, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 11, Northbrook (Cook Co), 26 Dec. (m.ob.); 6, Spfld, 29 Dec. (DB); 5, Chi, 18 Dec. (JSa); 2, De Kalb Co, 31 Jan. (DS).

Pine Warbler
wintered (2+), CONWR (BD, KM, TF).

Common Yellowthroat
20 Dec. (2 males), HLCA (DB); 22 Dec. (2), Union Co (VK, DB).

Northern Cardinal
MC: 512, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 69, Spfld, 3 Jan. (DB).

Indigo Bunting
20 Dec. (2), HLCA (*DB).

Rufous-sided Towhee
MC: 26, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 6 Dec. (2), Boone Co (AB); 17 Dec., Rockton (Winnebago Co) (DW); 21 Dec. (2), Johnson Co (TF). *"Spotted form"*- 10 Nov.-29 Dec., SRSF (KR); 7 Feb., Spfld (DB).

American Tree Sparrow
MC: 319, Du Page Co, 17 Dec. (JSu); 300, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM); 135, Will Co, 26 Dec. (JM); 115, Spfld, 9 Feb. (DB).

Chipping Sparrow
22 Dec., Union Co (*DB); 23 Dec., **Mason Co** (*DB).

Field Sparrow
MC: 108, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 17 Dec. (3), Winnebago Co (DW); 2 Jan., GLPSP (JM); 20 Feb. (5), Spfld (DB); 26 Feb. (6), Pulaski Co (TF).

Vesper Sparrow
20 Dec., HLCA (*DJ).

Savannah Sparrow
MC: 41, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 10, Baldwin L, 9 Jan. (KM); 10, Franklin Co, 24 Jan. (LS); 7, Decatur (Macon Co), 7 Jan. (MD); 7 wintered, Sangamon Co (DB); 6, Pulaski Co, 21 Dec. (TF). Others: 17 Dec., **nw. Du Page Co** (DJ, JSu); 24 Dec., HL (DKa); 7 Jan., Urbana (RC); 15 Jan., La Salle Co (CMc, JMc); **29 Jan., GLPSP** (JSa, BDe).

Le Conte's Sparrow
6 Dec., **Powerton L** (Tazewell Co) (KR); 20 Dec. (3), HLCA (VK, m.ob.); 24 Dec., HL (DKa); 8 Jan. (2), Johnson Co (TF); 24 Jan. (2), Franklin Co (LS).

Fox Sparrow
MC: 96, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 30+, Jackson Co, 20 Feb. (DKa); 12, Sangamon Co, 13 Dec. (DB); 12, Pulaski Co, 21 Dec. (TF). Others: 18 Dec., Chi (JSa); 7 Jan., Sand Ridge N.C. (Cook Co) (AS,JSa); 16 Jan., Zion (PSw); 23 Jan., Clinton Co (KM); 24 Jan.(4), Franklin Co (LS); 29 Jan., Crabtree N.C. (Cook Co) (AS); 5 Feb., Mahomet (RC, GL).

Song Sparrow
MC: 894, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.). Others: 1 Dec. (20), Spfld (DB); 18 Jan., JP (PC).

Lincoln's Sparrow
17 Dec., **Pratt Wayne Woods** (Du Page Co) (*JSu); 20 Dec., HLCA (MD); 22 Dec. (2), Union Co (VK, m.ob.); 12 Feb., **Middlefork F.P.** (Champaign Co) (RC) - same bird as last year?.

Swamp Sparrow
MC: 654, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 25, Middlefork F.P. (Champaign Co), 12 Feb. (RC); 14, Spfld,1 Dec, (DB).

White-throated Sparrow
MC: 896, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 13, Spfld, 13 Dec. (DB).

White-crowned Sparrow
MC: 77, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 15, GLPSP, 2 Jan. (JM); 12, Urbana, 17 Dec. (RC); 8, Spfld, 7 Feb. (DB); 7, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM); 4, Techny (Cook Co), 26 Dec. (LB).

The adult (center) and two immature White-crowned Sparrows tallied 2 Jan. 1995 on the Morris-Wilmington Christmas Bird Count at Goose Lake Prairie State Park, Grundy County. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

Harris' Sparrow
wintered, **HL** (JZ, DKa, KM).

Dark-eyed Junco
MC: 396, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 105, Spfld, 3 Jan. (DB); 79, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu).

Lapland Longspur
MC: **6,000**, Clin.L, 1 Jan. (MD); 5,000, Clin.L, 4 Feb. (RC); 5,000, Jackson Co, 8 Jan. (BD); 2,000+, Carl.L, 29 Jan. (DKa, ASp); 126, Winnebago Co, 17 Dec. (DW); 120, Bald. L, 9 Jan. (KM); 60, Sangamon Co, 8 Feb. (DB); 45, Vermilion Co, 24 Dec. (JS).

Snow Bunting
MC: 210, De Kalb Co, 8 Jan. (JMc, CMc); 100, La Salle Co, 15 Jan. (CMc, JMc); 70, Rockford, 8 Mar. (ABr); 45, Boone Co, 23 Feb. (AB). Others: 7, IBSP, 24 Dec. (AS); 2, Nauvoo (Hancock Co), 21 Dec. (KR); 2, Hoopeston (Vermilion Co), 29 Jan. (KR, LA); LChau, 2 Jan. (RC); Rossville (Vermilion Co), 7 Jan. (RC); Cisco (Piatt Co), 7 Jan. (MD); Clin.L, 8 Jan. (RC); Jackson Co, 8 Jan. (BD).

Red-winged Blackbird
MC: 10,000, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 5,000, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM); 300, Braidwood, 2 Jan. (JM).

Eastern Meadowlark
MC: 117, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 45, Carl. L, 23 Jan. (KM). Others: 17 Dec. (7), Pratt Wayne Woods (Du Page Co) (JSu); 18 Dec., Greene Valley F.P. (Du Page Co) (AW); 26 Dec., Techny (Cook Co) (LB); 29 Dec. (4); Braidwood (JM); 28 Jan., Winnebago Co (BG).

Yellow-headed Blackbird
2 Feb. (male), **Rend L** (BD); **4 Feb**. (female), **Ottawa** (La Salle Co) (JMc, CMc).
Rusty Blackbird
MC: 100, Bond Co, 18 Dec. (KM); 47, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 25, Jefferson Co, 17 Dec. (TF).

Brewer's Blackbird
6 Dec. (2), **Monroe Co** (TF); 6 Dec., **Boone Co** (AB); 18 Dec., **Weldon** (De Witt Co) (MD); 25 Feb., **Clin.L** (RC).

Common Grackle
MC: 9,000, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 900, Braidwood, 2 Jan. (JM); 67, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu).

Brown-headed Cowbird
MC: 1,000, HLCA, 20 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 35, Glenview, 26 Dec. (JSu).

Purple Finch
MC: 20, Klehm F.P. (Winnebago Co), 1 Jan.-25 Feb. (ABr); 7, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 6, Rockford, 25 Feb. (DW); 4 (female plumage), Carl. L, 1 Jan. (DKa, BW); 4, Johnson Co, 29 Jan. (TF); 3, De Kalb Co, 4 Feb. (DS); female plumage, GRCA, Lee Co (JMc, CMc).

House Finch
MC: 708, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 135, HL, 23 Dec. (KM); 100, Vermilion Co, wintered (JS); 62, Boone Co, 22 Jan. (AB); 30, De Kalb Co, wintered (DS); 28, Naperville, 21 Jan. (JSu).

Red Crossbill
11 Dec., Rockford (Atwood Park) (ABr); 17 Dec., Rockford (Macktown F.P.) (ABr); 15 Jan., Allerton (Piatt Co) (RC).

Pine Siskin
Only one report all winter.

American Goldfinch
MC: 373, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 112, Bond Co, 18 Dec. (KM); 105, Spfld, 9 Feb. (DB); 85, LCal, 31 Dec. (WM); 66, JP, 26 Feb. (PC).

Evening Grosbeak
17 Dec.(3), Rockford (DW).

House Sparrow
MC: 235, Union Co, 22 Dec. (VK, m.ob.); 134, Glenview, 26 Dec. (LB); 45 wintered, JP (PC).

Eurasian House Sparrow
MC: 25+, HL, 21 Jan. (DKa); 16, Henderson Co, 22 Jan. (JMc, CMc); 12, Spfld, 1 Dec. (DB); 10, HL, 24 Jan. (KM).

Exotics:

Monk Parakeet
12 Jan. (4), Zion (PSw); Wintered (18), JP (PC).

Send seasonal reports to:

Fall Migration - (1 August - 30 November)
Due 7 December • Robert Chapel,
306 1/2 West California , Urbana, IL 61801

Winter Season - (1 December - 28 February)
Due 7 March • Robert Danley,
2201 Clay Street, Murphysboro, IL 62966

Spring Migration - (1 March - 31 May)
Due 7 June • Myrna Deaton,
4540 E. Spruce St., Decatur, IL 62526

Breeding Season - (1 June - 31 July)
Due 7 August • Vernon Kleen
Illinois Department of Conservation
Natural Heritage Division
524 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62701

Illinois Ornithological Society gratefully acknowledges the following supporters and contributors for their generous donations.

Supporters $100 - $500

Anonymous
Mrs. Dolores Banzhaf
The Donnelley Foundation
Parker Hall • Mary Anne Harrison
David B. Johnson
R. David Johnson
Kay Morgan • Sebastian T. Patti
Wilbur and Baiba Rosenkranz
Roger and Dana Rzpeka
Wild Birds Unlimited/Highland Park
David Willard, Ph.D.

Contributors $50 - $99

Mr. and Mrs. Rex J. Bates David Brenner
Florence Burek
Chicago Ornithological Society
Jill Cumming
Dinah Dyer and Herb Wisch
Evanston North Shore Bird Club
Betsy Fikejs
Philip Haebler • R. Laegeler
Joe Lill Family
J. DeNavarre and Marjorie Macomb, Jr.
Alex and Marilyn Meloy
Kristin and Roger Miller
Steven Mlodinow
North Central Illinois Ornithological Society
Joe and Marlene Nowak
Karen Rodemaker
Mark Seiffert
Joe Suchecki
Paul F. Sullivan and Marsha Dittmer
John and Caryl Sweeney
Michael J. Sweeney
Lynne N. Tamura

NATURE'S CORNER • 708-369-3636
WILD BIRD PRODUCTS
Almost 100 kinds of BIRD FEEDERS • More than 40 kinds of WILDLIFE FOOD
Birdbaths, heaters, poles, houses, books, fieldguides, binos, scopes, packs and more
NATURE'S GIFTS
Art and limited edition prints, porcelains, musicals, mugs, tee and sweat shirts, stone critters, gardening and nature books, toys, puppets, puzzles, minerals, wind chimes, jewelry, cards, calendars, audio and video tapes.
WATER GARDENING SUPPLIES
Pond kits, liners, pumps, filters, fountains, water test kits and pond care products.
10-8 WEEKDAYS, 10-6 SAT., 1-5 SUN. • 566 S. RT. 59 NAPERVILLE, IL
ACROSS FROM THE FOX VALLEY MALL NEAR VENTURE

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

➤ We welcome manuscripts, photographs, and illustrations for possible publication in *Meadowlark*.

➤ Article topics include unusual bird sightings and nesting accounts, technical papers on bird research, and other articles such as bird finding guides and field identification tips. Joy of birding articles will be considered.

➤ Manuscripts should be typewritten or computer-generated, double spaced and on only one side of numbered pages. Please send two copies of your manuscript and make sure you keep another for yourself.

➤ If you are able, submit a computer disc in ascii file or for Word Perfect 5.1.

➤ Include name, address, and day and night time phone numbers. Other pertinent information about your qualifications and background is also helpful.

➤ We prefer clear black and white or color print photographs. Color slides may also be acceptable.

➤ We reserve the right to review and edit articles according to style, grammar, accuracy, and readability.

✉ Send articles, photographs, and inquiries to:

Sheryl De Vore, Chief Editor
967 Braeburn
Mundelein, IL 60060.

✉ Pen and ink drawings are also accepted. Contact:

Denis Kania
1536 Preston Road
Naperville, IL 60563.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

✉ ✉ ✉ ✉ ✉

Members of the Illinois Ornithological Society receive *Meadowlark*, the quarterly journal, plus *Wings Over The Prairie*, the IOS newsletter. Members are also invited to special field trips, the annual meeting, and other IOS functions.

To join or send a gift subscription, send your name or that of the gift recipient, address, and telephone number along with fee to:

IOS
P.O. Box 1971
Evanston, IL 60204-1971.

Back issues of Volume 1, 2, 3 and 4 are still available for $5 each.

Fees:
Individual $20
Family $30
Full-time student $10
Contributor $50 - $99
Supporter $100 - $499
Sponsor $500

Our Focus is Clear

Leica

8x32 BA

UPSTART CROW

Your Birding Experts

2112 Central St. • Evanston, IL
708-332-2769(CROW) • 800-404-5959

Springhouse, begins where the travel brochures leave off.
Read about the real Southern Illinois: History, folklore, humor, recipes, and letters- always plenty of letters.
One-year subscription (6 issues) $15.00

Springhouse
P.O. Box 61 • Herod, IL 62947
Tel. No. (618) 252-3341

BINOCULARS REPAIRED
CUSTOM SALES

The *right* binocular at the *right* price
Herb Koehler - Owner
Binocular Technician 45 years
Estimates: No Cost or Obligation

TELE-OPTICS
5514 Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, IL 60630
(312) 283-7757

Meadowlark
AM. MUS. NAT. HIST. LIBRARY
Received on: 12-27-95

AMNH LIBRARY
100232893

EAST MEETS WEST

The western "spotted" and eastern races of the Rufous-sided Towhee (Pipilo erythrophthalmus) were seen northwest of Springfield, Illinois, the winter of 1995. Dennis Oehmke took these photos of two males on 9 Feb. 1995.

Notice the spotted feathers and two white wing bars of the left-facing photograph indicating western race and the lack of spots on the right-facing photograph of the eastern race. Western race (P. e. arcticus) normally occurs in the northwest United States and occasionally in Illinois. A photographed western race Rufous-sided Towhee was seen 8 May 1993 in Decatur, Illinois (Bohlen, H.D. Birds of Illinois. 1989. Indiana University Press.)